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24 JULY 1986

Southeast Asia Report

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SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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AUSTRALIA

CANBERRA REMOVING IMPORT BARRIERS FOR PACIFIC FORUM STATES

BK010318 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0130 GMT 1 Jul 86

[Text] Australia will remove the last barriers on almost all imports from the South Pacific Forum countries. The 11 forum island countries, including Papua New Guinea, will receive duty free access for nearly all their goods. The only exception will be in areas such as textiles, clothing, and footwear, steel, motor vehicles, and sugar. Radio Australia's foreign affairs correspondent, Grahma Dobell, reports:

[Begin Dobell recording] The freeing up of access follows a major review last year of the South Pacific regional, trade, and economic corporation agreement. The access is expected to help the Pacific with sales of timber, furniture, and fruit. Officials in Canberra say the country best placed to benefit is Fiji, which has already staged a trade expo in Sydney earlier this year and has created Australia-Fiji Business Council. The officials say there is likely to be little immediate change in trade flows, but in the long term the scheme opens the door for Australian manufacturing investment in the South Pacific. Australian business will be able to produce off shore in Forum countries and import duty free.

Trade officials say that even in those areas where Australia applies protection policies, the Pacific is given special treatment. In clothing, textile, and footwear, the forum states will be given a 40 percent margin of preference over other developing countries. [end recording]

/9604
CSO: 4200/1196

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

NEW SOUTH WALES PREMIER--New South Wales health minister, Mr Unsworth, has been elected unopposed to take over as premier from Mr Wran who will resign on Friday. Mr Wran announced his resignation last month. Mr Unsworth was endorsed as Mr Wran's successor at a state Labor caucus meeting in Sydney. [Excerpt] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 2 Jul 86] /9604

NEW LABOR PARTY PRESIDENT--The special minister of state, Mr Mick Young, has been formally elected as national president of the Australian Labor Party. Mr Young was elected unopposed to replace the New South Wales premier, Mr Wran, who is retiring tomorrow [4 July] after 10 years in the job. [Excerpt] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Jul 86] /9604

LANDROVERS FOR ARMY--The federal cabinet has approved the purchase of a new fleet of Landrovers for the Australian Army at a total cost of more than \$110 million. The car company, Jaquar Rover Australia, won the right to provide 2,900 new vehicles from another contender, the Mercedes Benz company. Final approval will depend on part of an acceptable level of involvement by Australian industry. The defense minister, Mr Beazley, said the company had proposed that the new vehicles be assembled at its Moorebank plant in New South Wales. The first Landrover is due to go into service later this year. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 1 Jul 86] /9604

CSO: 4200/1196

INDONESIA

DAILY SAYS ASEAN SHOULD CONSIDER PNG'S WISH TO JOIN

BK070509 Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 27 Jun 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Papua New Guinea Would Like To Become an ASEAN Member"]

[Text] At the 19th annual ASEAN foreign ministerial meeting in Manila on 23-24 June 1986, Papua New Guinean [PNG] Foreign Minister Legu Vagi drew the attention of ASEAN members to his country's desire to join this organization.

The news is somewhat "surprising" because this country has thus far never submitted an official application letter to join the association, except that such a desire was expressed some time ago whtn the government of Prime Minister Michael Somare was in power.

Accordingly, the ASEAN foreign ministers were "surprised" at what Foreign Minister Legu Vagi said in Manila. PNG understandably would have been a little angry if it had submitted an official application letter and had not received any response.

We do not know how far PNG has been lobbying the ASEAN members, either individually or collectively. What we know is that PNG together with Brunei Darussalam were permanent observers at every annual ASEAN foreign ministers meeting which they had the right to attend and they spoke at the opening and closing ceremonies.

However, PNG has been the lone observer since Brunei Darussalam was accepted as a full member of the association early in 1984. PNG is probably less satisfied with its old status.

PNG itself has become a member of a regional South Pacific organization known as the Soiuth Pacific Forum, along with Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Vanuatu, and Western Samoan. PNG even said that it would not join ASEAN because of its geographical location which it describes as a "bridge" linking Southeast Asia with the South Pacific.

Indeed, PNG has a somewhat "unique" geographical location. This country can be included in the South Pacific, but it is difficult to deny that it is also part of Southeast Asia because it shares a common border with Indonesia.

Historically, two countries [excluding the founding countries] have officially applied for membership in ASEAN since ASEAN was established in Bangkok on 8 August 1967. The two countries were Sri Lanka and Brunei Darussalam. Bangladesh has expressed its desire to become a member, but it has never submitted an official application letter.

Sri Lanka's application was diplomatically rejected primarily for geographical and cultural reasons, while Brunei Darussalam's was accepted because the latter is in fact geographically situated in Southeast Asia.

Later, Sri Lanka joined a regional cooperation organization in South Asia known as the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation along with India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal, and Bhutan.

It would be better for the ASEAN members to consider PNG's desire. PNG's good interest in ASEAN's goals to create peace and stability in Southeast Asia and its presence as an observer at the annual ASEAN foreign ministers meetings in recent years should receive proper consideration.

We view as wise the ASEAN foreign ministers' decision to leave this matter to senior ASEAN officials for deeper discussions instead of flatly rejecting it without satisfactory reasons.

It would be important for PNG to further step up its lobbying activities to each ASEAN member in the future as the question of accepting a new member must be decided through common deliberations or consensus.

/9738
CSO: 4213/157

INDONESIA

RICE SELF-SUFFICIENCY MAY BE SHORTLIVED

BK051312 Hong Kong AFP in English 1214 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Jakarta, 5 Jul (AFP)--Indonesia's newly-attained self-sufficiency in rice may not last long if production growth over the next two years remains static at 0.18 percent, an Indonesian minister has cautioned.

The daily JAYAKARTA Friday quoted Wardoyo, a junior minister for food production increase, as saying the 0.18 percent growth would not be sufficient to cover consumption of the additional annual two percent population growth.

The minister was commenting on an estimate just issued by Indonesia's Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS) which said rice production this year is estimated to reach only 18,000 tons more than 1985's 26,537 million [figure as received] tons.

He said the low rice growth rate was a result of government efforts to prevent overproduction and depressed rice price by diversifying into other crops such as soy bean and corn.

For the immediate future, the low production growth is cushioned by a large national rice-stock managed by the national logistic agency BULOG.

But if production remains at the same level next year, Mr Wardoyo said it may represent a "yellow light" for the nation's rice self-sufficiency.

Indonesia attained self-sufficiency in rice last year after decades as the world's largest rice importer.

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CSO: 4200/1192

INDONESIA

WEEKLY REVIEWS CHANGING FACE OF MILITARY

BK060130 Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 21 Jun 86 pp 12, 15

[Text] The Indonesian Armed Forces [ABRI] has reached a landmark. This week, for the first time in its history, the posts of the army, navy, and air force chief of staff are assumed by officers not from the 1945 generation. After a smooth reorganization ABRI is now under the command of a completely new generation.

The rejuvenation process was completed with the installment by President Suharto on 18 June of Lieutenant General Tri Sutrisno as army chief of staff and Lieutenant General Mohamed Sanusi as national police chief, replacing General Rudini and General Anton Sujarwo respectively. Two months ago the president also installed Vice Admiral Rudolf Kasenda and Air Marshal Utomo as navy and air force chiefs of staff.

The rejuvnenation has indeed proceeded smoothly. In the Indonesian Army, only Major General Sukoso (army inspector general) and Brigadier General Sutanto Wismoyo (sociopolitical affairs expert) are from the 1945 generation. The two officers do not hold strategic posts and their terms of service will expire along with outgoing Army Chief of Staff General Rudini next year.

The journey of a generation in ABRI has ended. After the reorganization, the structure of ABRI has not only become "slimmer" with the number of regional military commands reduced from 16 to 10, but the organization itself is now run by a generation of officers who have been through a tight selection process. Commenting on this matter, Armed Forces Commander General Benni Murdani said: "In the past, one of the main criteria to evaluate an officer was whether he fought in the war for independence. This kind of officer used to be called an eternal fighter. However, this criterion can no longer be applied to the generation of officers after mine." He also said that in the last few years, ABRI leaders have introduced a tougher and more thorough criteria for promoting and assigning new posts to younger officers. Murdani said: "With the present organizational structure, we can assess an officer's performance more easily after he has become a regional military commander." There are four criteria for evaluating an officer. The most important is his loyalty to the Pancasila state ideology, while the

other three, not necessarily in this order, are professional ability, personality, and ethicality. Professional ability means the officer concerned is able to handle an upheaval without opening fire, to settle a dispute without causing an upheaval, or to sacrifice his personal interests for the sake of loftier ideals. Personality and a good sense of ethics mean that he is not inclined to steal things or become a womanizer.

With the introduction of the tougher criterion, the structural shape of the military officers' hierarchy will inevitably change. The ideal number of high-ranking army officers is about 1 percent of the 23,000 officers on active duty. Before the reorganization, the army had more than 200 high-ranking officers, but now it has only about 70.

Based on the four criteria mentioned earlier, the officers are to be promoted in a more selective manner. According to General Murdani, a two-star general will eventually become the highest-ranking officer in each of the military services. After this rank, the next promotion will be even more selective to limit the number of high-ranking officers. Murdani stressed that a promotion in rank always demands a high sense of duty and responsibility.

The process to promote officers is not simple. These officers cannot easily obtain their "starts" because each "star" reflects a level of ability and responsibility. A reliable source said "when two-star generals are the highest-ranking officers in each service, the chief of staff will be a three-star general, while the armed forces commander would be a four-star one." As such, the rank will easily reflect the hierarchy of the post.

General Murdani added that the promotion of a colonel to a one-star general is "a significant move in the career of a soldier." Because such a promotion basically demands a greater sense of responsibility and better performance from that of lower ranks. "Therefore, we hope that these officers do not spoil the confidence entrusted in them." Murdani said when receiving a report on the promotion of 46 high-ranking ABRI officers last week.

Meanwhile, outgoing Army Chief of Staff Rudini confirmed that the chance to become a high-ranking officer is getting smaller, not only because of the reduced number of posts after the reorganization, but also because of the tougher criterion for promotion. He said: "We cannot help these officers when they fail their examinations" citing the case of an officer who wrote to his superior asking for assistance after flunking his exam.

The ABRI reorganization will also expose medium-ranking officers to multi-faceted problems as early as possible. This means that the existing 40 regimental commanders will probably assume one or two higher posts before being selected to assume the coveted post of regional military commander. Similarly, there will probably exist several hundred colonels who will compete for the 40 or 50 high-ranking officers posts.

The rejuvenation of ABRI has indeed started and according to one source, its follow up is already being prepared. The source disclosed that the tenure of a chief of staff will be limited to 3 years. And there are already some ideas as to who will become the next chief of staff. The source cited the appointment of major general Edi Sudrajat as deputy army chief of staff and stressed the fact that Sudrajat is 48 and Sutrisno is 51 and that 3 years from now, Sudrajat could replace Sutrisno when the latter ends his tenure.

Born in Jambi on 22 April 1936 and a 1960 graduate of the National Military Academy in Magelang, Sudrajat gives the impression of a true fighting soldier. Five years after his graduation, he was a company commander in the first battalion of the Army's Red Beret Corps. In 1971, he was commander of the fourth group of this elite corps and in 1980, he was commander of the Army Strategic Command's Airborne Combat Command. One year later, he was promoted to commander of the Bukit Barisan regional military command and in 1983, he was commander of the Siliwangi regional military command. His latest post before being installed deputy army chief of staff was assistant for operations to the ABRI headquarters. Two years after his graduation, the slim and mustached officer took part in the Trikora campaign [to liberate Iran Jaya from the Netherlands], and in the following 16 years he took part in six military operations--against the separatist movement of the Republic of South Maluku in 1983, against the Free Papua Movement in 1965, against the Indonesian Communist Party-backed 30 September Movement in 1965, against the Sarawak People's Guerrilla Force in 1969, as part of the International Control Commission in Vietnam in 1973, and the Seroja Operation in 1978.

Edi Sudrajat believes that the continued unity between ABRI and the people can be maintained only if ABRI upholds two things, namely its people-oriented fighting spirit and its military professionalism. The young general describes professionalism as an inseparable combination of skill and moral strength, noting that "a doctor can be skillful, but without strong moral conviction, he might as well prescribe poison for his patients."

The current rejuvenation is taking place not only due to the physical, but also the professional demand. Sudrajat said: "The society is changing, therefore ABRI must also change." He also believes that only successful leaders are able to read the signs of the times and understand people's aspirations, stressing that the people yearn for a society able to maintain and develop its own course of events.

When asked about the difference between ABRI of the 1945 generation and that of the present younger generation, Sudrajat said that while the system is similar, the situation is different. He said: "While the 1945 generation gained independence and sovereignty for the country, we are supposed to defend and give substance to them. We are now facing various problems in the efforts to make our country prosperous, including the problems of unemployment and coping with world economic problems. Asked about the dual function of ABRI, Sudrajat said that it depends on regional need and potential external threat.

Retired Lieutenant General Sayidiman Suryohadiprojo, former deputy army chief of staff and governor of the National Defense Institute, once remarked that both Sutrisno and Sudrajat possess a strong fighting spirit. Sayidiman also believes that there are different challenges faced by the generation succeeding the 1945 generation. This explains why the character of the succeeding generation is different. "In the past, we became fighters first and then professional soldiers. Now it is the other way round," he concluded.

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CSO: 4213/157

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

MOKHTAR REGRETS AUSTRALIAN DECISION--Jakarta, 21 Jun--The Indonesian Government deeply regrets the Australian Government's decision to grant refugee status to two Irian Jaya border crossers, Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumastmaja told newsmen at the Foreign Affairs Department on Friday [20 June] in response to the announcement by Australian Immigration and Ethnic Affairs Minister Chris Hurford in Canberra on Wednesday. Mokhtar said that the decision will encourage other Irian Jayan border crossers to enter Australia. "It is a fact that many more are waiting for their chance to do so. Therefore, we deeply regret the Australian Government's hasty action," the minister said. However, he added that Indonesia will not interfere in the matter because Australia is within its rights as a sovereign state. Mokhtar also admitted that he did not know whether the two border crossers are wanted by the Irian Jayan authorities. [Excerpts] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 21 Jun 86 pp 1, 12 BK] /9738

CSO: 4213/157

PHILIPPINES

UP DRAFTS CONSTITUTION FOR CONCOM CONSIDERATION

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 22 May 86 pp 1, 8

[Article by Brenda P. Tuazon]

[Text]

The University of the Philippines is putting into shape a draft constitution to be submitted to the Constitutional Commission before President Aquino convokes the body on June 2.

UP president Edgardo J. Angara, chairman of the 1986 Constitution Project, made this report yesterday as he received draft reports of the project's working group. Angara was a delegate to the 1971 Constitutional Convention.

Angara told *Manila Bulletin* that the 1986 Constitution Project would come up with studies and proposals on selected key constitutional issues to serve as a take-off for discussions by the Con-Com.

The UP committee is meeting today to collate the reports of the various sub-groups and to come up with proposals to be embodied in the UP draft constitution which will be finished by May 30. It will then be submitted to the 50-man Con-Com.

The main problem faced by the 1986 Constitution Project is the form of government to be embodied in the new charter. Angara said four proposals are being considered. These are:

1. Mixed presidential-parliamentary form. There would be a vice president elected with the president from the same party, who will be the presiding officer of the National Assembly and may be appointed to the Cabinet. Majority of the members of the Cabinet must be members of the National Assembly.

2. Modified presidential form. This is basically presidential in form but it incorporates the proposals into the third proposed form of government together with two elements of the parliamentary form of government, namely: (a) the president is empowered to dissolve the legislature, and (b) system of mid-term recall of the President which is analogous to the no-confidence vote in the parliamentary system.

3. Presidential system as outlined in the 1935 Constitution with reduced emergency powers for the president.

4. Parliamentary form as originally drafted in the 1973 Constitution (minus the 1978, 1981 and 1984 amendments).

Dr. Irene R. Cortes, UP executive vice president and co-chairperson of the 1986 Constitution Project, said:

"This will serve as the university's contribution to the commission's work. What is important is to put the government on a stable and constitutional basis."

During the launching of the project last April 30, Angara said that the project is similar to the project undertaken by the UP Law Center in 1969. The draft and discussions of the Law Center were used as resource material by the 1971 Constitutional Convention.

Angara said that the sub-groups had submitted to him studies and proposals on the following constitutional issues:

1. Form of government — whether presidential, parliamentary or a combination of the two and the system of checks and balances in the executive, legislative and judicial branches.

2. Legislature — whether unicameral or bicameral and the system of representation — whether proportional, geographical or sectoral.

3. Relationship between central and local government — whether unitary, federal or autonomous.

4. Form of the people's political participation in the government.

5. National economy and patrimony.

6. Constitutional bodies, such as the Commission on Audit and the Commission on Elections.

7. Education, language and culture.

According to Angara, the UP constitution project "aims to ensure public participation through public hearings." The UP Law Center will initiate "mini-constitutional conventions" in various parts of the country to complement what has been initiated by the Bishops-Businessmen's Conference.

He said that the UP project would not end with the presentation of the draft constitution. The UP will have a data bank and will maintain trained and competent library personnel to handle requests for assistance from the Con-

Com as well as from the public.

The 1986 Constitution Project is being undertaken by a working group from the UP College of Law and other units of the UP assisted by consultants.

Angara said that it is his hope that public consideration of the various issues confronting the Com-Con may be enhanced through public discussions.

The continuing legal education of the UP Law Center is in charge of organizing public forums in the different regions of the country.

Of interest to constitutionalists are the three proposals being evaluated in connection with the legislative power. These are:

1. A unicameral body, called the National Assembly, with a membership of 250 based on a ratio of one representative for every 250,000 population. Representatives will be elected by legislative districts.

2. A bicameral legislature, with a Senate as the upper chamber and the House of Representatives as the lower chamber. The House would be organized along the same lines as that of the National Assembly. The Senate would be composed of 26 members to be elected nationwide, or alternatively, by regions, with each region entitled to elect two senators.

3. A unicameral legislature called the

National Assembly to be composed of members elected from the provinces with their component cities, under a system of proportional representation. Members elected from the provinces, the urban cities and the Metro Manila area, will be apportioned by the Commission on Elections on the basis of a ratio of one representative for every 250,000 in population. Members will be elected from party lists and named as candidates by political parties.

Power

A proposal to institutionalize in the new Constitution the principle of "people power" as a direct means of exercising sovereignty, is among proposals being studied by the working committee of the University of the Philippines 1986 Constitution Project. It was learned yesterday.

UP President Edgardo J. Angara who chairs the committee, disclosed this at a press briefing on the UP project at the UP Asian Institute of Tourism.

Angara said the project will collate and classify materials on constitution-making, including the organizations of a data bank with trained and competent personnel to handle requests for assistance from the Constitution Commission.

The UP group will conduct research and draft proposals and "identify constitutional issues which need critical examination," Angara said. The UP Law Center will organize public forums in the various regions for public discussions of the proposals.

Under the proposal to "make more vibrant" the principle of people power, the proponents said the crucial question is at what level of government must the processes of people power be made to operate.

Among the accepted means of more direct assertion of sovereignty, it was pointed out, are recall, initiative, and referendum.

Recall is the process by which the occupancy of office by an elective or appointive official is sought to be terminated by popular vote. Initiative is the reserved power of the people to propose laws and to enact or reject laws at polls called for the purpose, independently of the regularly constituted legislature.

Referendum is the process by which a law enacted by the legislature is subjected to the approval or disapproval of the people.

In the case of recall the study said, it is easy to assert as a general principle the advisability of allowing it for national officials as the President, Vice President or senators. But the practical problem about implementation must be considered.

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CSO: 4200/1190

PHILIPPINES

MALAYA VIEWS INTEREST GROUPS' PRESSURES ON CONCOM

Quezon City ANC PAHAYAGANG MALAYA (Sunday Supplement) in English
1 Jun 86 pp 3, 4

[Article by Ed L. Santoalla: "Keeping an Eye on Vested Interest Groups"]

[Text]

WHEN the Constitutional Commission finishes its work 90 days hence, President Corazon C. Aquino shall have answered one question that has been badgering many Filipinos ever since her fledgling "revolutionary government" first broached the idea of assigning the writing of a new constitution to an appointed few. Will the resulting draft be reflective of the people's aspirations for a truly free, democratic and prosperous society?

There are fears, even now, that the Commission, composed of men and women of "known probity, nationalism, independence and patriotism" may not quite live up to expectations. One consideration, observers say, is that the Commission was not exactly created "in a vacuum."

The Commission starts work amid an extremely volatile situation where the Aquino government is being buffeted on practically all fronts.

U.S. GOVERNMENT

THE US government, for one, has met problems with the way some liberal Aquino technocrats are viewing the country's US\$26 billion external debt as reflected in suggestions for a policy of selective repudiation. There is too the NAFF-MND (New Armed Forces of the Philippines-Ministry of National Defense) combine which is getting more peaved with the government's policy on human rights violations. Mass protest against continuing human rights abuses is already succeeding in exposing the "unreformed" new AFP. Meanwhile, Marcos loyalists are relentless in pursuing an apparent conspiracy to destabilize the newly-installed government.

On the other hand, the thorny insurgency problem, contrary to earlier projections, appear nowhere near dissipation. It may even be bound to worsen as demands remain unheeded by government, and are met instead with unabated mili-

tary abuse carried out in the name of counterinsurgency. - Government's repeated pleas for patience are, in fact, now meeting an increasingly disgruntled public.

The government, observers agree, is performing a delicate balancing act between all forces it is presently confronted with. In constituting the Commission in the midst of such situation, however, the government appears to be getting into a larger balancing act between "the interests of foreign big business and their local partners, on the one hand, and the needs and aspirations of the people, on the other," noted nationalist quarters.

"There are vested interests and these would naturally exert all efforts to have their interests secured through the new constitution," says lawyer Jose Feliciano, an official of the national cause-oriented federation Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (BAYAN). "These vested interests have plenty of resources within their reach (to be able) to inject in the minds of Commission members certain provisions favorable to them (the vested interests) but prejudicial to the great majority of the people," he adds.

Feliciano, who was a delegate to the 1971 Constitutional Convention and was chairman of the committee which investigated the infamous "payola scandal" during the same convention, identifies such vested interests as "big businessmen, big landowners and agents of the US government."

The former congressman and townmate of the late Sen. Benigno Aquino Jr. does not name names but he says that the moves of these interests are worth watching for "they can thwart the liberal and progressive directions that the

Aquino government is presently taking." He said such moves may particularly be directed towards manipulating the representational composition and if not this, actually influencing the Commission's membership itself.

TIGHTROPE

THAT such possibilities exist is something no less than Malacanang deputy executive secretary Fulgencio Factoran Jr. acknowledges.

In an interview prior to the announcement of presidential appointments to the Commission last May 25, Factoran admitted his office has been tight-rope on the matter of sectoral representation in the constitutional draft body.

He said that different sectors have different views of what representation should be in the Commission. Pointing in particular to the case of workers and peasants who would insist on representation on the basis of their majority position in society and that of business groups claiming representation on the basis of their own efforts and contributions to economic production and nation-building, Factoran said that the approach to selection is one of "accommodation."

What we have been working for is a commission within which various views can be articulated," Factoran said. "The end-result should be a constitution acceptable to all," he added.

Reacting to fears expressed particularly by cause-oriented quarters that the commission's composition would ultimately reflect a "bias for the elite," Factoran said that President Aquino would definitely put in "more workers and peasants."

But what guarantee is there that the majority would indeed be re-

presented in the Commission? There may be workers and peasants but what if effective control and direction of constitutional deliberations falls into the hands of the elite?

To these, Factoran replies: "I think the President has her heart in the right place. She's afraid of the radical approach but her idea of democracy is that this should be premised on the grassroots and their organization. I just hope people would be more patient and stop cursing situations that differ from ideal scenarios."

Such assurances notwithstanding, "there is still a need for the people to maintain their vigilance," or so insists Feliciano who is one of only 39 delegates who refused to sign the 1971 Constitution.

1971 CON-CON

HERE were 297 delegates to the 1971 convention and majority of them were "imbued with a high sense of civic-mindedness and patriotism." Many of them, however, were not able to resist the pressures that deposed President Marcos was exerting for a constitution that would serve his self-aggrandizing schemes.

Feliciano warned that a bleaker fate awaits the Constitutional Commission of 1986 as they are subject to pressures from various sources which can bear upon them simultaneously. "The US government will definitely intervene as would big landlords, big businessmen and other conservative forces," he said. "It behoves the Commission's members to resist these forces by keeping in mind that national interest is always over and above their own."

Feliciano also places a high premium on direct people's participation which he regards as "a surefire way to protect the Commission from the taint of external influences inimical to the interests of the people."

"It is a good thing that the Filipino people are now highly politicized," he said. "They are aware of their rights and are militant in asserting those rights," he added, saying that "we can use people power again to help the Commission transcend its limitations and enable it to draft a Constitution that would be truly responsive to the people's needs and aspirations."

It was learned that Feliciano is part of a ten-man "people's constitutional panel" that BAYAN has formed "to spearhead the presentation of the people's position in public hearings" on specific constitutional provisions.

The panel, which is also composed of former Sen. Lorenzo Tañada, former constitutional convention delegates Jose "Senseng" Suarez, Romeo Capulong, Manuel Concordia and Abraham Sarmiento, Rolando Olalia, Jaime Tadeo and Eddie Guazon of the labor, peasant and urban poor sectors respectively, and consumer advocate Sr. Mary John Mananzan, is part of BAYAN's campaign "to inform and educate the people on the criticalness of the Constitution vis-a-vis the present situation."

WORKING COMMITTEES

THE panel is supported by several working committees which are now drawing up "comprehensive people's programs in the economic, politico-legal and socio-cultural spheres" which BAYAN is submitting to the Commission for

consideration in its deliberations. The programs run the gamut of issues which BAYAN thinks the people are presently confronted with: democratic rights (from civil liberties to land rights), social welfare, national patrimony, national security (against imperialist aggression and domination), economic progress (including people's demands for the equitable distribution of wealth and nationalist industrialization), democratic representation in government and peace and order based on justice.

Rarely have the Filipino people been given the chance to take an active part in charting their own destinies. More often than not, they have only served as mere cannon fodder in the various violent struggles that marked Philippine society's historic path of change. The dust and the smoke of revolts

would clear, tyrants would flee but the broad masses would be left, deserted and deprived of the victories resulting from their sacrifices. This has always been the tragic case ever since the betrayal of the Katipunan revolt by the *ilustrados* and the subsequent political ascendancy of this "collaborationist" class in Philippine history of colonial and neo-colonial times.

More recently, the masses have, once, more, displayed exemplary courage and resolve in weakening and finally overthrowing a hated dictatorship. But will they now catch that historic wisp of a chance to actively contribute in the determination of the national future?

In 90 days, people conscious of the sovereign power that inheres in them, shall find out and take whatever appropriate course is there to fulfill their fundamental aspirations.

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PHILIPPINES

WEEKLY ANALYZES POST-AQUINO PRESIDENTIAL BETS

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 27 May-2 Jun 86 pp 11, 14

[Article by Rene Pastor: "Preparing for the Post-Aquino Period"]

[Text]

Politicians being what they are, many are setting their sights on 1992, the post-Aquino period.

The assumption is that President Aquino won't run for the presidency again when her term expires in 1992. Which is why many politicos are jockeying for the lead position.

Frontrunners would be Vice-President and Foreign Minister Salvador 'Doy' Laurel, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, and Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos. The darkhorse would be PDP-Laban head Aquillino 'Nene' Pimentel. In the running but probably out of it already would be ex-KBL MP Bias Ople.

Laurel has kept a low profile while projecting the image of a hard-working leader. "You can't help but like Doy at this point in time," said one analyst. "He's staying in the background and keeping busy. He is studiously following the policies of Cory and letting the government make its own mistakes."

But Doy's problem is the lingering tag that he is too pro-American. In addition, he has politicians in his party like Rene Espina, reportedly "detested" by President Aquino who never forgot or forgave his attacks on her husband Ninoy in the old Senate.

Laurel likewise has problems with the Left who feel he is too much of a traditional politician who cannot offer the "substantive" solutions needed to solve the social ills facing Philippine society.

The Laban coalition which joined the Unido in President Aquino's campaign for the presidency early this year is skittish

and loathed to support a Laurel candidacy in '92.

Another name smelling like a rose these days is Defense Chief Juan Ponce Enrile. Highly-placed sources in the Aquino administration say he and AFP Chief Fidel Ramos "will go for it" in 1992.

"We're very surprised about General Ramos," said the source. "We didn't know he had political ambitions. Enrile and Ramos have two things going for them. They have the solid backing of the military organization and the implicit support of the United States government."

"If Enrile and Ramos decided to combine as a team for the elections in '92, Ramos will retire from his position about a year before the polls so his name will again smell nice for the campaign period. Enrile will also take the same course of action. If Enrile cannot hack it anymore, Ramos can step into the breach as the retired civilian general who started the military revolt against the Marcos dictatorship," the source pointed out.

A lawyer who asked for anonymity explains why Enrile and Ramos are nervous and agitated about the Presidential Commission on Human Rights.

"Any abuses committed by them during the Marcos years that they may be held responsible for can wreck their political plans. Ramos is now asking for amnesty for soldiers who may be guilty of human rights abuses. Enrile is hitting the legal trail by saying he will provide out of his own pocket lawyers to defend soldiers who may be tried for violations of human rights by the Diokno Commission. This way, they

can preserve their support in the military establishment."

Other prospective candidates like Nene Pimentel and Blas Ople have problems of their own.

Pimentel is weighed down by the controversial appointments and pressure he is putting on those who want to be OICs. The designations of OICs by the PDP-Laban chairman has alienated many politicians.

Worse, there are reliable reports that Unido members who want to become OICs are being forced to switch their party affiliation to the PDP-Laban.

"Many politicians of Unido are changing parties, whatever else Pimentel says about being even-handed in his appointments," says one reporter.

The other problem of Nene is of course Agriculture Minister Ramon Mitra. The former MP from Palawan is presidential timber and is his rival for the party chairman's post in PDP-Laban.

"I am not interested in running for Vice-President," Mitra once said.

"But I am interested in running for President of the Philippines."

Blas Ople of the defunct Kilusang Bagong Lipunan, called by a newspaper columnist as Blast Hopeless, faces several handicaps. A candidate from Bulacan in the last Batasan elections, he only finished second to now Public Highways Minister Rogaciano Mercado by more than 50,000 votes.

Ople is also a former member of the KBL who benefited immensely from his 20-year association with the Marcos regime.

"Any ex-KBL member like Ople running for President should lose. Their membership in the former ruling party will always be remembered and this will drag them down," said another observer.

Still, everything will be simplified if Cory Aquino runs for President again in 1992. Filipinos may tire of her, but if she performs reasonably well over her six-year term, it would be hard for Enrile, Ramos or Laurel to get any political steam going to challenge her.

But who knows, by 1992, the next President of this republic may be a general with the nickname "Eddie."

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PHILIPPINES

TRADE MINISTER EMPHASIZES EXPORT ROLE

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 22 May 86 pp 1, 18

[Article by D. Siytangco]

[Text]

Trade and Industry Minister Jose Concepcion stressed yesterday the vital role of export promotions in the country's efforts toward national recovery.

While the strengthening of the domestic economic base remains a top priority of the government, Concepcion emphasized the urgency to complement economic recovery efforts with a vigorous export marketing and promotions program.

The minister urged the public and members of the People's Economic Council to view the coming Manila FAME Market Week on fashion accessories, footwear and leathergoods set May 25 to June 1 at the International Trade Center on Roxas Blvd. He said he wanted them to "see the significant

progress already achieved in the design and quality of local products for exports."

Concepcion asked the commercial attaches abroad to actively promote local products and get businesses and importers to buy Philippine products.

The fair will show world-class Philippine-made products ranging from costume jewelry and clothing accessories made of traditional materials and leather to children, ladies and men's footwear.

This market fair is being held especially for the export sector to keep it up-to-date in the latest styles and trends abroad, as well as for them to be aware of our own capability to come up with the kind of products which turn out to be highly acceptable in the international markets," Concepcion said.

Over 300 trade buyers from different countries and several journalists have already registered for the fair. There will be 75 local exhibitors. Last year, the first fashion accessories fair yielded a total of US \$1.28 million in negotiated and projected sales.

The fair this year will be joined by member associations represented by private companies. They are the Association of Philippine Leathergoods Manufacturers (APLEM) headed by Sylvia Santos, Maritime Footwear Manufacturers and Exporters and Importers Association (MAFFPA), Association of Footwear Industries of the Philippines (AFI-PI), Fashion Jewelry and Accessories Association of the Philippines (PJAAAP), Philippine Jewelers Guild, and the Tanneries Association of the Philippines.

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PHILIPPINES

FINANCE MINISTRY AGENCY TO BE FUNDED FROM LOANS

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 23 May 86 p 17

[Text]

The government plans to borrow \$50 million from the Asian Development Bank to bankroll a new entity under the Ministry of Finance which would sell all assets that were acquired or foreclosed by government-owned or controlled corporations during the Marcos regime.

When it is formally established, the new entity to be called the Asset Management Unit under Finance Minister Jaime Ongpin, will be the biggest government enterprise with properties valued at more than P100 billion.

Ongpin had dis-

closed during the ADB annual meeting in Manila early this month that the government of President Aquino would move for the "wholesale liquidation" of the non-performing assets of the Philippine National Bank and the Development Bank of the Philippines to restore the viability of the two institutions.

Both banks which are state owned, carry idle assets with a combined value of at least P110 billion.

The finance minister had mentioned the World Bank subsidiary International Finance Corp. as a

part owner of the asset disposal company.

It was understood that the planned borrowing from the ADB would be used to rehabilitate some of the assets that could not be sold immediately and make them viable businesses until new buyers could be found.

One of the immediate problems of the asset management entity is how to get the capable people from the private sector to run the enterprise considering that government remuneration cannot generally match fees offered by the private sector.

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PHILIPPINES

INTERNATIONAL FIRM OFFERS TO BUY EXCESS SUGAR

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 23 May 86 p 17

[Article by Fred Lobo]

[Text]

An international trading firm has offered to buy the country's entire excess sugar production within the next four years, Agriculture Minister Ramon Mitra disclosed yesterday.

Mitra said the offer to buy the country's excess sugar produce intended for the world market was made by the Philips Bros., a multinational commodity futures trading company.

He said the firm has offered to buy the country's excess sugar at the prevailing world market price.

The country has a total annual production at present of some 1.3 million metric tons, of which 900,000 to one million metric tons go to

local consumption.

This leaves an exportable surplus of some 300,000 to 400,000 metric tons, 208,000 metric tons of which go to the United States under the US Sugar Import Quota Program.

Mitra said that the offer will have to be carefully studied based on cost-benefit relationship.

The Philips Bros. offer calls for the purchase of the entire exportable surplus at the prevailing world market price, which now stands at 7-1/2 US cents per pound.

This purchase offer would apparently include the 208,000 metric tons reserved for the US quota which is priced at a high 17 US cents per pound.

Mitra said that the

benefits of the present piecemeal selling as against bulk selling under the Philips offer will have to be weighed.

Other developments will also have to be taken into serious consideration, industry observers said.

One of these is the favorable forecast that sugar prices would likely improve because of the Chernobyl incident which adversely affected Russia's sugar production.

Another development that has to be taken into consideration, observers said, is the move in the US Congress to increase sugar quota allocation for the Philippines as proposed by US Sen. John Melcher.

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PHILIPPINES

CENTRAL BANK LIMITS QUEDAN FINANCING

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 29 May 86 p 13

[Text]

Thousands of farmers and rice traders are complaining of having been deprived from availing of the quedan rediscounting privilege following a resolution from the Central Bank (CB) last month limiting quedan financing to rice and corn millers.

Officials from both the CB and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAP) are now blaming each other for the issuance of Resolution No. 251 which was signed by CB Deputy Governor Eugenio Nierras Jr. last April 14.

Earlier, Agriculture and Food Minister Ramon V Mitra Jr. convinced CB

Governor Jose B. Fernandez Jr. to reopen the rediscounting privilege of commercial and thrift banks participating under the quedan financing program.

He added that the quedan program will now widen the farmers' share as they were then only enjoying less than five percent of the total loans released. The big bulk was cornered by the food traders, millers and retailers many of whom buy at low prices from rice or corn farmers although they were entrusted by the government with the financing program for having the widest

network compared to National and Food Authority (NFA).

Galo B. Cachitoren, executive director of the Quedan Guarantees Fund Board (QGFB), revealed that several commercial and thrift banks have been following the resolution to the letter by rejecting applicants, particularly the food millers who are big buyers of corn.

He also cited the case of Vicky Tan of L.T. Enterprises who applied for a P2.6 million quedan loan from Citytrust but was rejected for being a rice trader and not a rice miller.

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PHILIPPINES

BANKERS, BUSINESSMEN UNAFFECTED BY RAPS AGAINST CB HEAD

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 23 May 86 p 17

[Text]

A graft complaint filed against Philippine Central Bank Governor Jose Fernandez has not affected his standing or ability to negotiate with the International Monetary Fund, bankers and businessmen said.

The charges have not diluted his standing with bankers, the head of an offshore bank said. The international banking community trusts him, he added.

Charges of illegal use of duplicate power bills in the presidential election and takeover of Banco Filipino Savings and Mortgage Bank last

year were filed with the ombudsman last week by a group named Anti-Graft League of the Philippines.

The ombudsman has not taken any action on the complaint so far and Fernandez has denounced the charges as "preposterous and malicious."

A Central Bank source described the charges as "pin-pricks" and said no one had taken them seriously.

The Philippines is seeking a second standby credit from IMF and Fernandez was principally responsible for securing the first. (Reuter)

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PHILIPPINES

GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION PLAN TARGETS 199 FIRMS

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 31 May 86 p 19

[Article by Ellen P. Samaniego]

[Text]

Presidential Commission on Government Reorganization (PCGR) chairman Luis R. Villafuerte yesterday said that only about 85 of the existing 284 government corporations will remain when the reorganization program finally takes off in October.

Villafuerte said he recommended this in his 400-page report which he will submit on June 4 to President Corazon Aquino for approval.

Included in the PCGR's recommendations are about 2,000 decrees and letter of instructions for outright repeal, modification or rescission with certain changes to remove the vestiges of the repressive government under Marcos.

Speaking at the regular Bicol Forum, he said that the PCGR's recommendations are far-reaching but are likely to be

controversial. However, he said he will "stand pat and argue" so that the new government will adopt these needed reforms.

He pointed out that the first report will focus on the wide-ranging structural, functional and policy reforms that will provide the operative principles for governance.

In formulating the program, Villafuerte explained that government reorganization should promote rather than obstruct private initiative unlike during the previous regime.

He added that the PCGR's guidelines in coming out with its recommendations include the promotion of the concept of people's participation as well as accountability on the part of government officials as well as cost-effectiveness.

A major component of the program is the promotion of decentralization

in order to "concretize" the goals of the government in contrast to the repressive structure under the previous regime which largely emanated from "extreme centralization."

He pointed out that based on the proposed reorganization, the new government should enhance the concept of regionalization of government offices as well as adopt real authentic local autonomy.

This not only result in a clear-cut system of authority but national officials can look forward to giving more powers to local officials, according to Villafuerte.

Villafuerte indicated that once the PCGR's initial report is approved by Aquino, the commission can issue the implementing details of the various recommendations by July 30.

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PHILIPPINES

JAYME OUTLINES PLANS FOR PNB REHABILITATION

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 30 May 86 p 19

[Text]

Philippine National Bank president Vicente R. Jayme outlined the state bank's major programs in a speech before the Financial Executives of the Philippines yesterday.

In a nutshell, he said the PNB rehabilitation plan for PNB calls for the transfer of the bank's non-performing assets and liabilities to the government, the restructuring of the bank's organization and the undertaking of new financing thrusts to enable the bank to immediately participate in the country's recovery and development program, particularly in the countryside.

The rehabilitation plan is now under evaluation by fiscal

and monetary authorities. Implementation is expected before the end of July this year.

The bank has about P46 billion in non-performing assets, representing 60 percent of total resources. Once these non-performing accounts and an equivalent amount of liabilities are taken off the books of the bank, he said, a leaner but financially healthier PNB should emerge.

Jayme indicated that the bank's total resources will be reduced to 30 percent of the 1985 level, but it will be rid of the burden of servicing its non-performing accounts. He stated that an unburdened PNB with a leaner organizational struc-

ture brought about by a voluntary early retirement incentive plan will be in a better position to participate in the government's economic program.

Following President Aquino's call for development of the rural areas as a priority undertaking, PNB, he said, will use its wide branch network and long experience in socially-oriented lending programs to carry out more efficient agricultural and countryside credit programs which will stimulate business and increase incomes in the countryside.

The domestic branch network will also enable PNB to take an active role in rural savings mobilization, and the

bank's overseas offices will promote more inward remittances of overseas workers' incomes so that these funds may be channeled into the economy. As the government institution with the most experience in international banking, PNB will likewise use its network of overseas offices and correspondent banks to actively engage in export financing and development, he added.

Jayme stated that all these reforms plus the promotion of professionalism in the ranks of the rehabilitated PNB, will hopefully restore the bank's financial integrity and help it regain its premier position in Philippine banking.

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PHILIPPINES

RURAL BANKS, COOPERATIVES TO REGAIN TAX EXEMPTIONS

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 21 May 86 pp 1, 11

[Text]

Rural banks and cooperatives will again enjoy tax exemptions and privileges, the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) said yesterday.

In two memorandum circulars issued yesterday, the BIR restored the tax exemptions and privileges of rural banks which were abolished in 1984 by Presidential Decree 1965. The circulars implemented PD 2026, dated Feb. 3, 1986.

However, only rural banks with net assets of less than P30 million can avail of the privileges which shall be extended only for a period of five years from Feb. 3, 1986.

According to PD 2026, the tax exemptions were restored upon "urgent representations of rural bankers and to ensure their survival in the face of grave emergency by present economic difficulties."

The salient features of the decree, which amended PD 1965, were publicized in Revenue Memorandum 9-86 dated May 8.

In another memorandum, the BIR said that under PD 2008, cooperatives will again be exempted from income and sales taxes. PD 1965 scrapped the tax benefits granted by PD 175. These were restored by PD 2008, which took effect last Jan. 8.

The exemption shall be effective only until Dec. 31, 1991, the BIR said.

Moreover, to be entitled to the exemption, a substantial portion of the net income of the cooperative should be returned to members in the form of interests or patronage refunds.

PD 2008 defined the cooperative's taxable income as "that portion of the cooperative's income after deducting the interest and patronage fund paid to its members."

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PHILIPPINES

PLANS REVEALED ON SALE OF NDC ASSETS

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 31 May 86 p 19

[Text]

The Cabinet has generally agreed to disperse ownership of public sector companies, particularly those under the National Development Co., which is now headed by Trade and Industry Minister Jose Conception.

NDC, which grew to become the country's largest public sector enterprise under the Marcos regime, is heavily involved in almost every major area of business activity, from agriculture to manufacturing to services.

Conception said he has drawn up a scheme whereby the process of privatizing NDC's huge business operations could be started.

The plan calls for a combination of employee stock options, public offerings and foreign participation to spread the equity base over as wide a sector as possible.

Initially, the trade official's scheme calls for selling 20 percent of the NDC companies to their employees, 20 percent to the public through the stock exchanges, another 20 percent to foreign investors and the remaining 40 percent which is the maximum, to be retained by the government in the event new private capital would not be enough to buy out the stakes of the government.

The Aquino administration has laid

down a policy to sell off all business operations of the government which directly compete with the private sector.

NDC has become so large in recent years, collecting about 70 subsidiaries, that it had come to be regarded as the private sector's top competitor.

Among companies which NDC owns or where it has a major stake are the Philippine Associated Smelting and Refining Corp., Philippine Phosphate Fertilizer, Philippine Airlines, National Shipping Corp., National Steel, Interbank, Philippine National Construction Corp. and Asia Industries.

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PHILIPPINES

FOOD MINISTER EXCUSES 'MARCOS CRONY' FROM BEEF INVESTIGATION

Quezon City ANC PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 1 Jun 86 p 3

[Article: "What Is It that Mitra Said About Rancher Yulo"?]

[Text]

The controversy surrounding the government's ongoing probe of the former meat cartel has deepened amid Agriculture Minister Ramon Mitra Jr.'s conflicting statements as he exonerated a Marcos crony from what was once a flourishing cattle importation monopoly.

In a Malaya interview yesterday, Mitra confirmed an earlier ministry statement on the acquittal of former member of parliament Luis Yulo, manager of the 40,000-hectare Yulo King Ranch, from the cartel even as he cited Bureau of Animal Industry records showing fund diversions for YKR cattle imports.

The minister maintained in previous press briefings that YKR, along with the BAI-owned Philbel International trading firm in Australia and the Philippine Integrated Meat Corp., comprised the troika of agribusiness firms which formerly controlled imports and local distribution of Australian cattle and beef. He even pointed to BAI records allegedly showing that YKR had overpriced its cattle imports which a ministry probe team recently discovered were processed with BAI letters of credit.

The minister's statement given to

newsmen by MAF assistant minister Dennis Barbero, raised eyebrows following Thursday's MAF public hearings on the recently-deregulated meat importation.

The statement said: "I absolve former MP Luis Yulo of any participation in the meat cartel. If ever, the involvement of Yulo has been found to be above board; it is really the system and practices of the past regime that has caused damage to the livestock industry."

Mitra told Malaya yesterday Yulo did not benefit from the cartel even if he was the manager of the YKR farm in Busanga Island, Palawan, where hundreds of families were allegedly evicted in the 1970s to give way to the ranch.

Mitra said the group of ex-MP Peter Sandoval, who controls Pinaco and Philbel, actually ran the cartel and the YKR, but he could not categorically say when present Y Yulo, in his capacity as manager, was not aware of the shady import deals.

Yulo is not involved since he claims to own the imported cattle at YKR, the minister said. He claimed to have BAI records proving that their procurement were actually financed by BAI.

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PHILIPPINES

TROOPS ESCORT, DRIVE BUSES, END TRANSPORTATION STRIKE

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 28 May 86 pp 1, 10

[Article by Fred Lobo]

[Text]

Major bus companies resumed plying their routes yesterday, thwarting attempts by a militant bus workers' group to paralyze public transport in Metro Manila.

Bus drivers, conductors, and conductresses who had staged a sympathy strike in support of their colleagues in other strike-bound firms, agreed to return to work today and, thus, bring public transport back to normal.

Buses, primarily those belonging to the government-owned Metro Manila Transit Corp. (MMTC) and JD, returned to the streets yesterday with uniformed military men as escorts, to service thousands of commuters along E. de los Santos Ave. (EDSA).

and nearby routes.

Aside from having uniformed military escorts, some MMTC buses were actually driven by Constabulary men in civilian clothes, it was learned.

Assistant Transportation Minister Constancio Toralba, concurrent MMTC president, assured the public of the continued operation of MMTC buses.

Brig. Gen. Ramon Montado, commanding general of the Capital Region Command (Capcom), said he requested the fielding of some 2,500 enlisted men to ensure the safety of buses plying their routes and to allow workers and other commuters to reach their destinations on time.

Government intervention came in the

wake of complaints of bus companies that their drivers and conductors were willing to ply their routes but were being threatened by co-workers who initiated the walkout.

In yesterday's dialogue at the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MOLE), Labor Minister Augusto Sanchez appealed to the strikers to lift their picket lines and to return to work in the interest of public service and for the benefit of thousands of commuters.

Sanchez told labor and management representatives that differences could be ironed out in continuing talks without adversely affecting the commuting public.

Leaders of the striking bus workers told Sanchez that they will convey his appeal to their members and promised to return to work immediately.

Among those who attended the conference were Deputy Minister Manuel Domingo of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC), Commissioner Mariano Santiago of the Land Transportation Commission (LTC) and representatives of the Bus Industry Alliance of Labor Organizations (Binala), the umbrella group of the striking bus workers.

Binala members, however, continued to express their support for their co-workers in strike-bound bus firms such as the DM Transit, Pavil, California Transit, and the Philippine Rabbit.

MOTC and Labor officials said that they will continue to monitor developments in the transport industry with the end in view of promoting harmony and normalcy.

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PHILIPPINES

MANILA BULLETIN BACKS DENIAL OF TEACHERS' HIKE

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 29 May 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Teachers' Pay"]

[Text]

THE President was well-advised in telling the teachers the truth — that right now the government cannot afford to give them salary increases. That is preferable to making promises that cannot be kept. It is hoped the teachers will understand the plight of the government.

Even if no pay raises are given in the near future, there are bits of news to cheer about. Consumer price inflation is down to less than 3 percent on an annual basis. It has not reached this low level in many

years. Low inflation means the currency can buy more. This is significant for low-wage earners.

Another thing to cheer about is the end of graft in the Ministry of Education, Culture, and Sports and related agencies. The prevalence of graft demoralizes the employees, including the teachers, and constitutes a factor for protest.

It has been reported that some teachers are set to mount demonstrations during the opening of classes next month. They may well do that but they should also

take the facts and the good faith of the administration into account.

Protests and strikes will only tend to destabilize the economy and discourage the inflow of foreign investments. They will thus be self-defeating.

The better thing to do is to wait a while and give a chance to the government to mount an economic recovery program in the second half of the year. If that succeeds it will not be too difficult to give raises to the teachers who, as everybody knows, are underpaid.

/9317
CSO: 4200/1190

PHILIPPINES

GOVERNMENT COMPANY NEGOTIATES HOTEL SALES

Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 31 May 86 p 19

[Text]

The Government Service Insurance System is now negotiating with various foreign and local groups which have expressed interest in buying a number of GSIS-owned hotels, GSIS president and general manager Feliciano Belmonte Jr. said yesterday.

Belmonte said GSIS may as well dispose of its holdings in various hotels because of difficulties in managing them.

It will be better for GSIS to dispose of some of its hotels, especially those which have not been completed yet, rather than letting them rot and be destroyed by the elements, he said.

Belmonte said a number of foreign groups with local partners have expressed interest in buying Hyatt Regency Hotel.

A group within GSIS is now packaging the prospective sale of Hyatt, he said. GSIS exposure in Hyatt, including additional P16.45 million investment in 1984, amount to P79.35 million.

Some offers to buy the Enrico Hotel have been made but the offers were less than the amount of money invested by GSIS in the hotel, he said.

He said GSIS may just decide to sell Enrico Hotel on a long-term basis to the Phi-

lippine General Hospital for possible use as an extension building.

This move, which is now being discussed with PGH officials, is in line with the social insurance program of GSIS, he said.

Belmonte also said GSIS is eyeing negotiations for possible changes in the 20-year contract entered into by the former GSIS management with Westin International hotels which is managing Philippine Plaza Hotel.

He said the contract is too long and may have to be reduced to about three to five years.

Belmonte also said GSIS is open to less-

ing or entering into a joint venture with any business group who would like to convert the closed Jazmin Hotel in Sta. Mesa, Manila into a boarding house that will cater to students in the university belt.

GSIS, he said, also has investments in Manila Hotel, Philippine Village Hotel and Puerto Azul. PVH was recently closed down because of unprofitable operations. Its break-even occupancy rate is about 41 percent.

Belmonte also said GSIS plans to open up soon a GSIS office in Cotabato City to service over 25,000 government employees in nearby provinces.

/9317
CSO: 4200/1190

PHILIPPINES

OPLE REPORTED UNFAZED BY PNP DESERTION

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 2 Jun 86 pp 1, 6

[Text]

Former Labor Minister Blas F. Ople, acting chairman of the Partido Nacionalista ng Pilipinas, yesterday said he respects the decision of an 11-man bloc which bolted the PNP because of disagreements over their participation in the Constitutional Commission.

During the emergency weekend meeting of the PNP executive committee, Ople, who leads the opposition panel in the Con-Com, said "principled disagreements can be the basis for splitting a party without any rancor or recrimination."

Ople also said he was informed by some of those who resigned from the PNP that the issue on participation was a mere pretext to cover a pre-agreed decision to bolt the PNP and join another party offering better protection and more immediate rewards.

The 11-man bloc led by former Batangas MP Manuel Collantes was reported to be joining the Nationalist Party of ex-MP Rene

Cayetano, an associate of Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile.

The Collantes bloc decided to bolt the PNP after majority of their colleagues decided to participate in the Con-Com.

Collantes said that the decision taken by the PNP was contrary to an earlier stand of the opposition group, including KBL men, that members of the Con-Com must be elected.

Ople said his own decision to participate in the Con-Com "entails a real risk that I will be barred from running for the first local and national elections, and therefore the possible sacrifice of personal ambitions."

"I did not stop to count because this is an opportunity for the opposition to represent effectively in the Con-Com the views of millions disaffected with

the Aquino government and who might not have otherwise a voice," Ople said in a press statement.

He said, "unfortunately, some other groups seem to believe in a policy of default, as though inaction confers a special merit on those who practice it and the authority to buckle those who take action on behalf of the entire opposition."

Ople said the PNP executive committee was considering former Gov. Antonio Leviste of Batangas to replace Collantes as provincial chairman.

Meanwhile, Ople said that their group will support former Justice Cecilia Munoz-Palma in today's election for president of the Con-Com.

"We know from experience that Palma will steer the commission towards a course of complete independence from the appointing power," he said.

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CSO: 4200/1190

PHILIPPINES

SISON ANALYZES NEW FACTIONALISM IN MILITARY

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 27 May-2 Jun 86 p 13

[Article by Nora O. Gamolo: "Emerging Factions in the Military"]

[Text]

Upon her accession to office, and with Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, President Aquino retired almost a hundred generals and replaced them with some of the top Reformists of the AFP. But the saga of the retired loyalist generals did not end there. Some of these generals and officers are believed to be behind the emergence of new groups within the military, a disturbing development considering that more than the insurgency, the pro-Marcos comeback actions are disrupting the normal flow of political life in the country.

José Ma. Sison, self-confessed founding chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines first bared the existence of an apparent split in the military's ranks in a recent forum on the "Prospects of the Left" at the University of the Philippines Asian Center. One camp, Sison said, professes loyalty to the present administration and the other retains loyalty to the former strongman, Marcos.

According to Sison, the pro-Marcos military group has banded together into an organization called I.R.O.G. The acronym stands for the "Integree Reserve Officers Group", an organization of military officers who are not products of the elite Philippine Military Academy. It is common knowledge that Marcos' top followers in the military sector, such as former AFP Chief Fabian Ver, are not PMA graduates. As such, IROG is opposed to the Reformist camp. Some of the key people

behind the latest surge of anti-Aquino campaigns are soldiers and officers, particularly from Marcos' henchmen, the Solid North.

The rift stemmed from the Reformists' dominance of the new AFP. "IROG wants to neutralize, even end, the RAM's hold under the new set-up. But the RAM, fortunately, is for the professionalization of the military. IROG wants the new image out, and logically, its old image back," Sison told his audience composed mostly of students in the University of the Philippines.

However, he discounted the possibility that IROG and other like-minded organizations can erode the Aquino administration's popularity. They are "ill-equipped and ill-advised" to stage a government take-over, Sison said.

There are other organizations apart from IROG. Military officers who are not graduates of the PMA had formed their own group called the Brotherhood for Equality and Reforms in the Service (BROTHERS) in a meeting held in San Fernando, Pampanga last May 10.

Claiming a membership of 10,000 commissioned and non-commissioned officers, BROTHERS' organizers said "non-PMAers feel left out in promotions, assignments and other benefits in the military service."

In Regional Unified Command 3 alone, which hosted the meeting, it was reported that out of nine provincial and Metropolitan District Command officers, six are PMA graduates while the rest are reserve or integree officers. Col. Lorenzo Mateo,

for instance, who is RECOM 3 head, is not a PMA graduate.

BROTHERS spokesmen said that the group seeks equal treatment in the promotion quota, representation in the promotions board, foreign schooling, assignments and designation in key AFP positions. They also demanded that reserve officers who have served for 10 years should enjoy regular officer status.

The BROTHERS' organizational meeting was not something to sneeze about. Among the associations represented were the Reserve Officers Legion of the Philippines, Corps of Professors of the Philippine Military Academy, Union of Reserve Officers of the Philippines, Integree Reserve Officers Group or IROG, Movement of Naval Reserve Officers, Philippine Air Force Flying Academy Alumni Association, Direct Commission 1971 and other groups in the New AFP.

Analysts believe that even with Marcos gone, loyalists could still wield considerable influence. Interestingly, the IROG and BROTHERS' position may not sit well with the Reformists' position to professionalize the Philippine military establishment.

A puzzling development for instance, is the persistent report about the situation in Fort Bonifacio, a known loyalist bailiwick. One such report says that 67 tanks are still missing and 40,000 soldiers are unaccounted for, remaining on AWOL (absence without leave). Observers note that these men can be readily absorbed into the loyalist mainstream.

Factionalism within the military fold and how the various cliques in the sector look at their current mission now would be a point that bears watching in the coming days.

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CSO: 4200/1174

PHILIPPINES

NORTHERN LUZON NPA COMMANDER INTERVIEWED

Quezon City WE FORUM in Tagalog 13-19 May 86 p 7

[Interview by Nora O. Gamolo with Tingguian NPS commander Ka Lawig; session held before May 86 spate of ambushes and fighting, in an undisclosed location: "Aquino Is Not as Fascist as Marcos but..."]

[Text] Typical of rebel commanders, Ka Lawig is not given to talking about himself. A Tingguian from the province of Abra, his language and thinking reflected a high level of education.

When this writer requested an interview last month, Ka Lawig was with a group of young NPA recruits, sons and daughters of Cordillera peasants, ranging in age from 14-23. While his 40 or so underlings (or in polite NPA lingo, kasama or kadua) are that young, Ka Lawig, who appears to be in his forties, was decidedly the most senior. The group, he said, was not a regular fighting force but an armed propaganda unit responsible for organization and consolidation work.

The interview took place before the spate of ambushes and military operations in the Cordilleras.

On a government ceasefire offer: [There will be no ceasefire until there is an official policy.] Every comrade can have his own interpretation, depending on his level of leadership and on the objective conditions. [Until there is a unified movement, we cannot wholly support the ceasefire.]

We really see the need to come out with an official position immediately. [But there are situations that are hard to assess. There are many fast changes in the political situation; however, these changes are obstacles not big enough to prevent us from stating our position on a nationwide scale.]

There will be changes in tactics. The present government is not as fascist as the old Marcos regime, but armed struggle will still be the main form of struggle.

On "revolutionary taxation" in the Cordilleras: [Sometimes, there is revolutionary taxation here. It always started with the multinational corporations that came here; it also depends on the political power attained by the people who choose which corporations are to be taxed. We tolerate the operations of certain corporations depending on their effect on the lives of the people. The amount of taxes imposed on the corporations depends on the entire earnings of the corporations. There is no definite pattern of taxation: it is always on a case-by-case basis.]

[The best way to tax the corporations is on a lump sum basis. However, this depends on the attitude of the management of the corporation. At times, it is necessary for the commander to be well prepared ahead of time, as for example, on how to demand a large amount of taxes. But the best way of collecting taxes takes place only at certain fixed times.]

On NPA involvement in tribal wars: This practice is still going on. This is a historical process which takes place whether we like it or not.

It takes time to have a protracted educational process and the tribes can see that it has negative results and that it doesn't help them. There have been efforts and movements that have been practicing on it for a long time. When a tribal war suddenly breaks out, our first step, if a collision hasn't occurred yet, is to help negotiate and initiate talks among the warring tribes.

However, if it cannot be prevented, the NPA actively acts as a policeman to prevent an escalation of the conflict, as for instance initiating a peace pact.]

The NPA is a neutral entity whenever there is a tribal war and this role should be firmly supported by our fellow comrades. There are cases where a fellow comrade is emotionally affected, as for instance, when a relative is killed. But the active involvement has then been preempted. Otherwise, we simply get rid of him or let him leave our movement if he joins another tribal war.

On the involvement of the AFP in some tribal wars. [The traditional peace pact protects all the tribal members. When a tribal soldier commits any atrocity against another tribe, a tribal war may erupt and there will be trouble.]

[Once before, an entire tribe was used against us (NPA), as in the case of the Basao tribe which was not yet then politicized and the army used the tribe as leverage against those in opposition to the Chico Dam Project. The army aroused the Basao tribal members because the other tribes were strongly opposed to the Chico Dam Project. The AFP joined the Basao tribe, and the NPA on the other hand, joined the other tribe.]

[In 1982, the AFP started recruiting tribal members, especially among the Kalingas. Before the downfall of Marcos, additional recruits were made. A whole battalion was being trained, but maybe the tribal recruits have been integrated with the other units of the AFP.]

On the professionalization of the AFP: Professionalization means putting the relationships of the army with the people in proper order, properly improving the army's training and the quality of its weapons and logistics. However, they would not become the armed guards of the people, but rather of the exploiters and oppressors in our society. They might avoid perpetrating atrocities for now, [but as long as the struggle continues, they will eventually be defeated.]

On the role of the middle class in the revolution after the Enrile-Ramos snap revolution: [The middle class is the principal focus of the euphoric tendency. Probably the former middle-class opposition will be greatly affected by the change in government; there is more leeway for its interests, but the basic masses like the workers, the peasants, and the petty bourgeoisie in the urban centers do not see any change in their lives.]

[The middle class plays an important role in the revolution and many of them will open their eyes and will be disenchanted in the long run.]

[In truth, there are some changes in the way people look at things, especially among the middle class in the countryside and especially among those whose eyes have not yet been opened to the conditions of the basic masses. There is a perceptible change in the level of consciousness; the changes also cause a downward trend in political consciousness, but it is not the final gauge of the people, no matter what class they belong to. Rather it is what is really happening in their lives.]

[Here in the Cordilleras, there were no visible effects among the middle class here. Suddenly, they have also been trying desperately to understand why the hopes and aspirations for the kinds of changes that are possible by the change of hands in the ruling class that was initiated by exploitation cannot be complete.]

On their social analysis of the Cordillera region: [There are many communities in the Cordilleras where class differentiation is not clear yet, especially among the compact tribes which have more land and which have yet experienced minimal exploitation. In other parts of the Cordilleras, class differentiation is clearer. As long as there are no visible big landlords and middlemen in the Cordilleras, it is still possible to rally all social classes to the first three problems of our nation. We are confident that we can rally the entire Cordillera on a cross-class basis and that one concrete expression of this is to demand a democratic coalition government that will fight against the three basic problems of the nation: imperialism, feudalism, and bureaucratic capitalism.]

On the prospects of a democratic coalition government in the Philippines: [That question has been switching back and forth depending on the question of whether the semi-feudal and semi-colonial characteristics of the nation have in fact changed in turn, because as long as situations have not changed, the democratic classes cannot have genuine representation in a coalition government.]

Without eliminating imperialist control of the Philippines, Cory Aquino cannot position her government against foreign control. Not only the revolutionary organizations like the CPP-NPA and the NDF but every Filipino should pressure the new government to eliminate imperialist control of the country.

On the Freedom Constitution: Cory Aquino should review the methods she is employing now regarding the framing of the Constitution. She will merely appoint the framers instead of guaranteeing popular choice through an election. So, by their timetable, it will be very hard to believe that you can draft a constitution for the country in a matter of a few days or months, just in time for the

local and parliamentary elections. [What's that, but a snap job that can be thought out in just one night?]

On the broad left's participation in the framing of the constitution: It would not be bad to represent the people's demands. But it would be a different matter if the party would participate in the drafting of the constitution. We could support the framers who would come out for the interests of the people. We could support candidates if there were going to be an election.

As long as people have enough time to study the matter, they can vote correctly, but there is too little time for the Freedom Constitution. We should give ample time to the framers and the people to study it.

8335/7051
CSO: 4211/58

PHILIPPINES

MILITARY COMMANDERS AIR VIEWS OF CAGAYAN FIGHT

Quezon City WE FORUM in Tagalog 13-19 May 86 p 8

[Text] In Cagayan there are too many women in black.

Maybe one just suffered from an overheated imagination, the result of seeing too many combat-ready soldiers and hearing the loud drone of helicopter gunships.

But after passing town after dusty town along the 30-km highway separating Tuguegarao and the army's advanced command post in Alcala, the women in black were a common sight.

One of them talked with Colonel R. B. Tarroya, a battalion officer in the 1st Army Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (1/5), in Tupang, Alcala.

Col Tarroya told her and another officer: "Most of our soldiers come from here and you begin to wonder how very near to this camp we are bringing out dead to their families. One was not imagining the widows, after all."

Tarroya says that the current thinking in the military is to have troops come from the area where they are fighting.

That way, the soldier is familiar with the terrain and becomes less prone to NPA attacks, which, as of last week, have already claimed 73 lives from the military side.

There are other reasons for the heavy military casualties and one of them is "complacency" among the soldiers. "Our soldiers are just not security conscious," said a staff officer, who requested anonymity. "Some of them just haven't learned lessons from the past."

Military operations in Cagayan against the New People's Army guerillas have been off and on since 1975.

In the current offensive, concentrated mostly in the western part but spilling over into the east, the military is set to drive an estimated 100-120 NPA regulars to the Cordillera mountain range, said Brigadier General Manuel G. Ribo, the overall army commander.

"There is abundance of food here and that is the reason why the NPA's are fighting it out here," said PC Colonel Manual Avila. If the military succeeds in flushing the rebels out, they hope that the guerillas will just give up because of lack of food in the mountains.

As of 3 May, there were some 1,200 troops, backed by armored vehicles, 7 helicopter gunships, and 4 T-28 planes roaming rice-and-timber rich Cagayan. More troops moved in last week.

Ribo said the NPA regulars belonged to the elite "Puerza Makilos" of the Northern Luzon Commission, beefed up by an undetermined number of support teams.

Though news reports give the impression that the NPA's have the upper hand, Colonel Ribo believes the military "can stabilize the situation in 1 month. Our troops are now everywhere and have been engaging the enemy almost daily."

Already, the daily grind of patrolling, searching, and killing has made some soldiers live out movie fantasies. Last week, when scout rangers attacked a remote logging camp in barangay Sicalao, Lasam, where some 30-50 NPA's were holed up, a scout ranger, Corporal Waldemar Calderon, just stood up and started shouting and firing away. He was shot right through the mouth, dead. ["Probably he was very much worried; thus, he became very much confused already,"] said a fellow scout ranger.

There are many other bad dreams and soldiers talk openly about them. Perhaps it is their way of exercising their fears away before the actual encounters.

In trying to assign soldiers to their own hometowns, the military top brass believe that soldiers behave better if they are dealing with their townmates, thus avoiding the dreaded human rights violations or HR, as the officers put it.

HR is a highly sensitive subject in the ranks. In Lasam, the fire zone commander was approached by a town representative asking whether the military wanted civilians living in the mountains to move to the town center. ["It's up to them,"] the captain replied. ["Whatever they like to do, it's up to them. We don't want to be accused of violating their human rights. They might say that we were 'hamletting' them."]

Though military officers are confident the situation is "manageable" in military terms, they believe that in the long run, the conflict cannot be solved by force of arms.

"We cannot cover every ground," says Colonel Bernabe Orena, the 1/5 commander. There has to be an integrated effort by civilian government agencies, the people, and the military."

Colonel Alfonso Mora, the PC chief of staff in Cagayan, agrees. "The efforts to solve the problem should not only be a military one. There has to be social, economic, and political solutions. Even the ordinary soldier knows this."

And though they have the will to fight the NPA, the soldiers, as one staff officer puts it, "feel that talking with the other side is far better than shooting each other."

For now, however, the gun is still doing the talking. And the woman in black will still be a familiar figure in the coming days.

8335/7051
CSO; 4211/58

24 July 1986

PHILIPPINES**WE FORUM VIEWS CPP 'RECTIFICATION' MOVES**

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 27 May-2 Jun 86 p 6

[Article by Nick V. Quijano, Jr: "Will the Left Right Its Wrongs?"]

[Text]

In the Philippine Left, "rectification of error" means severe self-criticism. It is a very painful phrase because it implies errors on fundamental ideological questions, strategies, and even on organizational structure.

But "rectification" has its positive aspects. It also makes for a more vibrant and responsive organization.

Recent events suggest "rectification" is slowly gaining ground in the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), which, together with its military wing, the New People's Army (NPA) of 19,000, has been fighting a 17-year-old insurgency war in the countryside.

Indicative of "rectification" within the party has been the criticisms of the newly-formed Bakluran as Ikaunlad ng Sosyalista Listang Laib at Gaws (Bisig).

In a document analyzing the present political situation distributed in its founding congress last weekend, Bisig said "in the last year we were forced to fight ultra-left sectarianism in the movement. The dramatic turn of events fully vindicated our principled position. Recognition of their mistake has inspired the other sections of the movement to undertake a painstaking process of rectification."

The events referred to by Bisig were the snap presidential elections, which the party boycotted, and the February revolt.

Bisig's revelation that a "rectification process" was being seriously considered by

the CPP was also confirmed by a top-level party source.

The source intimated last week to WE Forum that the party's Central Committee is set to come out with a document this week which will answer pressing questions about the party position on the Aquino government and most likely admit that the "boycott" line it took in the February snap presidential elections was a "mistake."

According to the source, the boycott issue was a controversial decision of the party's powerful five-man Executive Committee.

He said that prior to the elections, the boycott issue generated intense debate within party ranks as well as its front organizations. So much so that there were plans to call a politburo meeting to settle the question.

But for some reason or another, the planned politburo meeting did not take place. Instead, the source said, the question was settled by the executive committee, which in a 3-2 vote, favored boycott.

Subsequent events proved the decision was not sound.

Though the boycott call was watershed decision, intense debates about other policy decisions have been going on for the past several years in the tight-lipped party, he said.

In fact, a "rectification movement" (REMO) has been gaining adherents, particularly among younger party members,

in the past three years or so, he said.

Initiatives toward calling for a party congress have also been made, he said. The last party congress in 1968, which split the party into two, resulted in the supremacy of the "Maoist" faction over the "Soviet-leaning" faction.

The 1968 party congress was also convened to "rectify errors."

Though the admission of errors, as the history of the party shows, paves the way for a "purge" in party ranks, the source said there will definitely be no "purge" of the party's top leadership.

While there is still doubt on whether "rectification" can become full-blown — and even if it did, the process would be kept out of non-party members — the party, meanwhile, is responding to some specific questions raised by President Aquino's rise to power.

A particular case is that of Fr. Conrado Balweg, who, two months ago split from the party to form the Cordillera Peoples Liberation Army (CPLA). Balweg has also hinted he was willing to face the Aquino government at the bargaining table.

According to the source, delicate negotiations are going on to reconcile the party's Northern Luzon Commission (NLC) with the CPLA. This in spite of "public denunciations" by party members against Balweg.

Though the NLC is far stronger than the CPLA — the NLC can cut off resources to CPLA anytime — the mere fact that

the CPLA has 100 fully-armed regulars and more than a thousand militiamen militates against such a full split with CPLA.

As to the raging ceasefire question, the party has unofficially set down a policy of leaving to the party's various regional committees "to have the initiative based on the prevailing conditions in their regions."

On the other hand, said a well-informed political observer, the Aquino policy calling for regional ceasefires indicates that Aquino may just have made a "very shrewd" move at making her ceasefire policy become a reality.

Samar and Mindanao, the CPP said, are considered "highly independent" guerrilla zone and may opt for ceasefire. But the mood is different in Northern Luzon, particularly in Cagayan, regarded as the party's extreme Left wing.

Does this mean the Left is riven by conflicting views? Not quite, the source said. The party and the Left in general are as strong as ever. It shows the party is becoming responsive to the new political picture.

Other sectors in the Left, however, are critical about the party being "too slow" in responding to the new situation, thus, creating uneasiness in Leftist ranks.

But the uneasiness is only temporary, the source said, and the CPP and the Left may just put on a more "dynamic" face in the coming days.

It is a development which bears watching.

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CSO: 4200/1174

THAILAND

SITTHI INTERVIEWED BY CHINESE LANGUAGE DAILY

BK031204 Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese 29 Jun 86 p 4

[Excerpts] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila reaffirmed yesterday that Thailand will continue its policy of treating Thai-Chinese people and Thai people equally, without discrimination. They enjoy equal rights in politics, the military, and other fields. This policy is aimed at promoting harmony between all nationalities.

He described the Thai policy as being the same as the U.S. policy of treating people of all nationalities equally and without discrimination, and said Thailand is the country in ASEAN who had achieved success in this respect.

He said that the Thai-Chinese people in Thailand do not cause any problems. The Thai and Chinese nationalities share common customs, and there is intermarriage between them. In addition, the Thai-Chinese enjoy equal rights with Thai people. This can be seen in the fact that some cabinet ministers are Thai of Chinese origin.

It is normal that the Thai people of Chinese origin cherish the memory of and pay respect to their ancestors. He also said that he has British blood relations; his ancestors were British.

Granting an exclusive interview with our newspaper's correspondent, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi said that if the Social Action Party wins the majority in the upcoming general elections, he is ready to become the prime minister. The new government should give priority to economic problems, especially the issues of poverty and tax restructuring.

Touching on Thailand's foreign relations, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi praised China as a dependable country. Chinese leaders have sincere intentions towards their Thai counterparts. When Thai rice faced a market problem, China extended its assistance immediately by buying as much as 200,000 metric tons of rice from Thailand. Because relations between the two countries have become closer and closer, Chinese leaders, when paying a foreign visit, always travel via Thailand to meet and exchange views with Thai leaders on international and bilateral issues.

/8309
CSO: 4205/21

He told his Chinese friends that, as deputy prime minister and foreign minister, he has paid great attention to the development of the Sino-Thai relations. He believes that the ties between the two nations will develop constantly.

He also believes that the delegation will not only receive a welcome from Minister Chaisiri but will also be warmly received and welcomed by every Thai.

He said that, if he still holds a post in the government after the general elections, he will visit China again. He also asked Li Menghua to convey his regards to Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian and other Chinese leaders.

ACM Sitthi said that when China holds the 1990 Asian games Thailand will send a large team to compete.

Delegation Chief Li said that the fact that China can hold the Asian games in 1990 cannot be separated from Thai assistance.

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THAILAND

SNOH MAY GET IMF POST, FINANCE VACANCIES NOTED

Bangkok NABO MA in Thai 21 May 86 pp 7, 10

[Unattributed report: "Thailand Plans To Field Snoch Unakun for IMF Administrative Post"]

[Text] Thailand has made plans to field Snoch Unakun for the position of Asian representative in the IMF at the end of this year. If he wins this position, there will be a major reshuffle in the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board. In the Ministry of Finance, several people of C-9 rank will retire. The Civil Service Commission will create a third deputy under secretary of finance position.

A report from the Ministry of Finance has informed NABO MA that Thailand is taking action at the international level to have a Thai elected as Asia's representative in the International Monetary Fund, or IMF. The administrator who holds this position is responsible for Asian affairs.

At the interim meeting of the IMF that was held recently in Washington, Mr Sommai Huntrakun, the Thai minister of finance, discussed this matter with representatives from several countries. This was well received by members of ASEAN.

The person whom Thailand intends to field this time is Mr Snoch Unakun, the secretary general of the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board and the man who served as the governor of the Bank of Thailand prior to Mr Mukun Prachuapmoh and Mr Kamchon Sathirakun.

Mr Snoch will have been secretary general of the Office of the National Economic and Social Development board for 5 years at the end of this year, which happens to be when the Asian representative in the IMF, a Burmese, will leave this position.

However, even though Mr Snoch has the support of the ASEAN countries, he must still compete against candidates fielded by other countries. An important competitor is the Japanese representative. There will probably be one or two others, also. Talks were held with Japan on supporting the Thai candidate. But the response was not favorable. Other countries must be approached about providing support.

If Mr Snoch does become the Asian representative in the IMF, the position of secretary general of the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board will be vacant and will necessitate another high-level reshuffle.

The news report stated that there is now one senior position vacant in the Ministry of Finance. No one has been appointed to this position yet because the Civil Service Commission granted permission to establish the position just recently. The position referred to is third deputy under secretary of finance, who will be responsible for certain technical and planning activities. The person being considered for this position is Mr Kowit Posayanon, the deputy director of the Fiscal Policy Office who was just transferred from the position of deputy director-general of Comptroller-General's Department about 2 months ago. But others may be considered, too, so that Mr Kowit can continue working with the Fiscal Policy Office on tax policy matters.

In the Ministry of Finance, two senior departmental administrators will retire this September, that is, M[royal title--PUIS] Chiwasawichakon Worawan, the deputy director-general of the Customs Department, and Mr Sane Phothipathom, the deputy director-general of the Excise Department. Both have C-9 rank. Mr Bunchu Angsusing, the inspector attached to the ministry, is due to retire, too. By the end of this year, there may be four vacant C-9 positions, including the new deputy under secretary position.

No directors-general are due to retire this year, and only two have held their positions for 4 years. Those two are Mr Banthit Bunyapana, the director-general of the Comptroller-General's Department, and Mr Kraisi Chatikawanit, the director-general of the Customs Department. "At most, there will just be a reshuffle, because the other directors-general are all relatively new to their positions. Mr Chaloemchai Wasinon, for example, became the director-general of the Excise Department just last year. Mr Wirot Lachaphan was appointed to his position in the Revenue Department last year. He has now gone abroad for a heart examination. Mr Manat Liwraphan has held his position in the Fiscal Policy Department for less than 3 years. Both Mr Banthit and Mr Kraisi are content to remain in their present positions. I don't know what senior people will do," said the news source.

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CABINET ECONOMIC DECISIONMAKING BROUGHT TO HALT

Bangkok NAEON in Thai 30 May 86 pp 7, 14

[Unattributed report: "Government Activities Have Come to a Standstill Since Parliament was Dissolved"]

[Text] The economic activities of the government have come to a halt since parliament was dissolved. Even work on the business law development plan, which was to be included in the 6th Development Plan, has come to a standstill. No progress has been made at all.

A report from the Government House informed NAEON that since parliament was dissolved, leaving just an acting government, the economic activities of the cabinet have declined greatly. Only routine tasks are being carried out. The economic cabinet is no longer holding its usual Monday meetings. Preparations for carrying out various tasks have come to a halt. Nothing is being said about conducting studies in order to formulate policies, such as the motor vehicle policy, the industrial machinery and chemicals policy, and the policy on improving the cultivation of economic crops in line with the changing world market situation, which is encountering problems. Everyone is waiting until there is a new government.

The only things discussed at the full cabinet meetings on Tuesdays are projects that are already underway. "At the meetings, the secretary general of the Office of the Prime Minister just reads this or that. The ministers listen to arguments for and against and nod their heads. If the matter doesn't concern their ministry, they don't pay much attention. Normally, these people rarely study matters concerning other ministries. And now that this is just an acting government, they are even less interested. Those ministers who are elected MPs are busy campaigning. The meetings are very dull."

One of the reasons why the economic cabinet is so inactive now is that the secretary general, Mr Snoch Unakun, is in Europe and will not return until the end of June. As a result, there is no one to take direct responsibility for placing things on the agenda.

A news source from the Development Council said that national-level lawyers held a conference at Phathaya during the middle of April in order to stipulate a line for developing the legal system so that it supports the business and

economic activities of the private sector to a greater degree. This will be included in the 6th National Economic and Social Development Plan as Plan 10. It was stipulated that this must be ready for inclusion in the 6th Development Plan by May, because this must be submitted to the cabinet for final approval before the end of September. But it is now the end of the month and the work committee has not made any progress in this matter. After the meeting concluded, nothing more was done. In short, nothing has been done because parliament was dissolved.

Minister Michai Ruchuphan, who is attached to the Office of the Prime Minister, formulated a program to draft a master law to have this provide a framework for drafting business laws that do not conflict with each other and that reinforce each other. Whoever wanted to go outside the framework would have to have a good reason. There should be a common framework for all the ministries and offices. The Faculty of Law at Chulalongkorn University was charged with making a study. But 2-3 days after the faculty members received the policy from Mr Michai, parliament was dissolved. Thus, just like other government study projects to implement economic policies, this, too came to a halt.

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'YOUNG TURKS' POLITICAL MOVES, CHAWALIT TIES VIEWED

Current Vocations, Links With Politicians

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 1-7 Jun 86 pp 1, 12

[Unattributed report: "The Young Turks Today, The New RTA CINC Has Agreed To Allow Them To Return to Military Service"]

[Text] Ministry of Defense Order 10001/24 dismissed the following officers from military service without pension as of 1 April 1981: 1. Col Manun Rupkhachon, 2. Col Prachak Sawangchit, 3. Col Pridi Ramsut, 4. Col Phanlop Pinmani, 5. Col Sakhon Kitwiriya, 6. Col Prap Chotikasathian, 7. Col Chanbun Phentrakun, 8. Col Bunsak Phocharoen, 9. Col Sakan Mitkasem, 10. Lt Col Bunyang Bucha, and 11. Maj Surarut Chanharathip. They were dismissed for posing a threat to the nation and monarchy.

Ministry of Defense Order 10002/24 dismissed the following officers from military service without pension as of 1 April 1981: Col Chuphong Matthawaphan, Col Wirayut Inwasa, Col Soemsak Mangkhonsut, Col Udondet Chakraphan, Col Sombat Rotphothong, Col Buan Ngamkasem, Lt Col Ronchai Sisuworanan, Lt Col Winai Somphong, Lt Col Udom Chaengchenset, and Capt Chakraphong Phongsuwan. They were dismissed for posing a threat to the peace of the country.

After these orders were issued, this group of officers, who had formed a solid bloc in support of prime ministers Kriangsak Chamnan and Prem Tinsulanon prior to 1981, split apart and each one went his own way. Appeals to be reinstated in the military have been made periodically. Today, 5 years later, everything is still quiet.

SIAM RAT would like to provide a little information on what these people are doing and where they are living today. Col Manun Rupkhachon, the leader of the group, had to flee and will probably have to stay abroad for a long time following his participation in a second rebellion on 9 September 1985.

Those who have announced their intention to run in the 27 July election include Col Prachak Sawangchit, who will run in Bang Khen District, Bangkok Metropolitan, as a member of the Thai Nation Party; Col Sakhon Kitwiriya, who is running in Trat Province as a member of the Democrat Party; Col Bunsak

Phocharoen, who is running in Singburi Province as a member of the Democrat Party; and Col Chanbun Phentrakun, who is running in Dusit District in Bangkok Metropolitan as a member of the Democrat Party.

Those who have been appointed advisors to Maj Gen Chamlong, the governor of Bangkok Metropolitan include Col Prap Chotikasathian, Col Buang Ngamkasem, Col Kampanat Ketwiriyakan, and Col Phanlop Pinmani. Lt Col Winai Somphong, a former aide to Gen San Chitpatima, is serving as the secretary to the governor of Bangkok Metropolitan.

Those who are engaged in private business and who are rather far from the center of administrative power include the following: Col Wirayut Inwasa, Col Thawiwat Niyomsen, and Lt Col Bunyangbucham, all of whom were excellent soldiers, have joined together and established a company called the "Siam General Guard Company."

Col Phanlop Pinmani and Maj Sanchai Bunthariksawat, who has a master's degree in political science and who writes under the pen name "A Young Soldier", are engaged in mining activities in Suphanburi Province. Their company is called the Sirimongkhon Mining Company.

Col Phirat Sawawiwat and Col Prachiat Panchinda have been given jobs by Col Phon Roengprasoevit, the chief advisor to the United Democracy Party. They are working in a canned pineapple factory in Cha-am.

Col Soemsak Mangkongsut is the chief engineer at the Petroleum Authority of Thailand. Col Sombat Rotphothong is the president of the Liberty Insurance Company. Col Chuphong Matwaphan works at a subsidiary of the CP Winat Company. Maj Surarut Chanharathip is an agricultural marketing manager in the Phahonyothin area. Lt Col Ronchai Sisuworanan works for the Interdata Company.

After finding out what they were doing and where they were at, these former coup makers were asked how they felt about things, particularly about the changes in the military and the rise of Gen Chawalit Yongchayut.

"Eighty percent of those who were dismissed would like to be reinstated. Because most of us are soldiers at heart," said Col Phanlop Pinmani.

Lt Col Winai Somphong said that "I don't want to say anything until this really happens. There have been reports about us being reinstated in the military. But the reports have always turned out to be false. It's like an unfulfilled dream."

Col Chanbun Phentrakun and Col Bunsak Phocharoen, who have decided to enter politics, said that "we have always wanted to return to military service. But it is too late for us now. But for those younger people who still want to return to the military, hopefully, senior people will show compassion."

Col Prap Chotiksathian, who is now working with his fellow classmate, Maj Gen Chamlong, as an advisor to the governor of Bangkok Metropolitan, said that "I don't want to talk about this right now. But many of us still love the military life. That is only natural."

When asked whether he knew what had happened to their request to be reinstated, Col Phanlop said that the request submitted in August had been forwarded from the Army to Supreme Command Headquarters. The matter then became "stuck" in the Ministry of Defense because of the events of 9 September 1985, which caused senior people to curtail discussion on this.

The reporter asked whether the statements by the new RTA CINC had given them new hope. Col Phanlop said that he thinks that they will be reinstated. The reporter asked whether a new petition would be submitted. Col Phanlop replied that that would probably not be necessary. Petitions have already been submitted through him on two previous occasions.

When asked whether any of the former young turks wanted to return to government service, Col Phanlop said that about 80 percent would like to return. That is the profession for which they trained. The newspaper articles on the statements made by the RTA CINC have generated much talk. They now have great hope of being reinstated.

Col Phanlop was asked what he did after being dismissed from the military. He said that he went to work for the Sirimongkhon Company, a mining company in Suphanburi Province. He works with Maj Sanchai Buntharikasawat. Others such as Col Phirat Sawawiwat, Col Prachiat Panchinda, and Lt Col Prasoet are working at a pineapple plantation in Cha-am.

Chamlong, Aides Comment

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 29 May 86 pp 1, 12

[Unattributed report: "Chamlong Asks Senior People To Show Compassion and Reinstate Young Turks"]

[Text] Chamlong has stated that he is in favor of reinstating former young turks. He has asked "senior people" to show compassion. He said that keeping them out of the military is a loss for the country.

Maj Gen Chamlong Simuang, the government of Bangkok Metropolitan and the former president of CRMA Class 7, talked with reporters about the effort being made by former young turks to gain reinstatement in the military. He said that he is in favor of this, because most of these former officers are good people with much experience. Senior people should show compassion. Keeping them out of the military is a waste of talent. These people do not pose any threat to the country.

A reporter asked whether the appointment of Gen Chawalit to the position of RTA CINC would help these former officers gain reinstatement. Maj Gen Chamlong said that he doesn't know. But their reinstatement does not depend just on the RTA CINC. This must also be approved by other senior people.

The reporter asked whether they would be able to carry out their duties

effectively if they were reinstated. Because they have been out of the military for 4-5 years. Maj Gen Chamlong replied that "there shouldn't be any problem. These people are still very hard working. Also, coming in contact with the outside world like this has broadened their minds and made them wiser.

When asked if he thinks that there will be a coup, Maj Gen Chamlong said that he doesn't know. But from listening to the people, the people want an election. Thus, if someone stages a coup, they will probably be opposed by the people. Today, the Thai people are more aware about administering their own affairs.

Lt Col Winai Somphong, the secretary to the governor of Bangkok Metropolitan and a former young turk officer, told reporters that he doesn't want to talk about returning to government service until he is sure what senior people intend to do. Because in the past, there have reports about their reinstatement several times. But that has never happened. At present, he is trying to do a good job for Bangkok Metropolitan.

Another former young turk, Col Prap Chotikasathian, the head of the advisory team to the governor of Bangkok Metropolitan, told reporters that he does not think that they will be reinstated in the military. They have tried on several previous occasions but have always been turned down. However, he would still like to return to military service.

The reporter asked him who has the power to make this decision. He said that it is the minister of defense who has the final say in this matter.

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AMPLIFICATION OF CHAWALIT INTERVIEW ON ASSUMING CINC JOB

Bangkok KHAO PHISET in Thai 2-8 Jun 86 pp 7, 54, 55

[Interview with Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, the RTA CINC, on 27 May at his home]

[Excerpts] After Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, or Big Chiu, was appointed RTA CINC in place of Gen Athit Kamlangek, he granted an interview to reporters at 1000 hours on 27 May at his Suan Phuttan home. KHAO PHISET thinks that this is the first time that Big Chiu has spoken out frankly, and he made these remarks after being appointed RTA CINC. The following are excerpts from that interview.

[Question] When did you receive the order notifying you of your appointment?

[Answer] I received the order around midnight. I haven't had time to make any preparations. The mass media learned of this before I did and so I haven't had time to prepare anything. And I don't want too much made of this, because everything will continue as normal. This is a great honor for me and my family. This royal appointment is also an honor for all officers, particularly those who graduated from the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy. I also consider it a great honor that senior commanders have shown their faith in me by allowing me to hold this position. This is a very important position that concerns the nation's security.

I had a chance to call the prime minister and minister of defense and thank him. I also had a chance to thank the supreme commander. Both of these men are in the provinces. Both men gave me some good advice. When they return to Bangkok, I will go and thank them in person and learn what the policies are. The supreme commander will return to Bangkok this afternoon.

[Question] (Question could not be heard clearly.)

[Answer] Actually, I don't have the right to question the orders of my superiors. But I will give you my personal view. I think that this royal appointment was a normal matter. The (former) RTA CINC and supreme commander is due to retire soon. In the 3 short months that are left, I must learn the lines, gain experience and learn from him what the policies are. The person who holds this position is not just the RTA CINC. He also serves as the

director of the Bangkok Peacekeeping Force and the director of communist suppression activites. Now that the prime minister has entrusted me with this position, which involves many different functions, because I lack experience and have much to learn, I must use this opportunity to have the former RTA CINC teach me what the policies and lines are so that I can carry out my duties effectively.

[Question] Would you tell us what your policy will be in administering the army?

[Answer] I am surprised.... It's a little too early for me to say anything about administrative policy. As I just told you, I must first learn what the lines and policies are from my superiors. But I have given this some thought. One of the most important things is for soldiers at all levels to unite and cooperate with each other in order to build up the army. This is fundamental. I am trying to adjust and give up those duties that are not directly concerned with the army. That concerns things in general. Another thing in which I am interested.... I have had a chance to meet with officials and make inspections. The previous RTA CINC made clear stipulations concerning the welfare of the men. We consider the junior officers and the NCOs to be the backbone of the army. We want to do everything we can to make their lives comfortable. The present economic situation is hurting them. This is a general policy. I cannot tell you any more than that. As I told you, I must learn what the policies are from my superior. He will stipulate the policies for me.

[Question] Will you involve yourself in politics. What will your policy be?

[Answer] As I have said, the army will carry out the military tasks assigned it. That is its main duty. As for other matters, such as the political problems, you are probably well aware of the feelings of the former RTA CINC. He wants there to be free and honest elections in which the people can have confidence and hope. We don't want illegal powers and influences taking control of the elections. We are very concerned about this. That was his policy, and I will continue that policy. That is a political problem.

The army will try to stay out of things that do not concern it. We will continue to develop our correct and good form of administration, that is, democracy with the King at the head.

[Question] Do you meet with the minister of defense?

[Answer] I meet with him regularly. I'm not sure why you asked that. As for meeting with my superiors, including the supreme commander, I meet with them frequently. Nothing will change.

[Question] Can you confirm that this election really will take place?

[Answer] You are trying to ask me the same question that has been asked again and again. That is, you want the military to stay out of politics. I can't see how it could be otherwise. We are officials of the state. We want things to be fair. We will remain neutral in the election so that the election is conducted honestly and fairly. I am not the only one who wants an honest and fair

election. All soldiers and civilians want that. Today, there are various reports. People hope that those in positions of responsibility will act like this. In particular, the politicians must understand that they must give hope to the people. The politicians are trying to serve the country and people. That is better than stirring up trouble. This should help put the people at ease and foster unity. I think that everything will be all right. The supreme commander has constantly said, and I can affirm, that we will not do anything dishonest or unfair. Elections are the means of maintaining the democratic system. My superior and I have told the mass media that this is one of the principles to which we subscribe. I want to thank you. We will undoubtedly have a chance to meet with the mass media again. I also want to thank you for cooperating with the army and the supreme commander, whom I consider to be my superior officer. I will cooperate with the army.

You may not see very much of me. I become rather nervous when I have to meet the mass media. I want to spend most of my time at my job. We have already discussed many things. We should do a lot and not talk too much. I want to tell you once again that everyone must work hard. We must all help carry out the tasks. We have to work together like brothers. Please don't view me as the RTA CINC. Think of me as an elder brother who wants to cooperate closely with you. There are many other things that we will have to do.

[Question] How can the present tension be relieved?

[Answer] I don't know to what you are referring. Perhaps you are referring to the political situation. I hope that I will be able to do a good job. I will do things in a straightforward manner. In response, I can only say that I will try to relieve the tension. I want data and ideas from everyone. I want subordinates to give me their ideas. I want the mass media to give me ideas, too. This is very important. Don't cut me off. Because you can provide valuable information to keep me informed about what is happening in the country. View me just the same as you have in the past. This is the only way that I can find out the facts.

[Question] Have any preparations been made?

[Answer] No. I don't think that anything special will happen. This was by royal grace. This was a kindness on the part of my superior. We can talk together frankly and honestly. The supreme commander, my superior, told me something that I have taken to heart. He said, "Chiu, this is something that had to happen sooner or later. I knew that you would someday get this position. I want to say congratulations. We will work together for the benefit of the country." That was all he said. The prime minister and minister of defense also offered me his congratulations. He told me not to change. He told me to work hard, to be humble, and to act properly toward my superiors. And this is exactly what the supreme commander will see.

There are no conflicts between any of us at the top echelon. We all understand each other. Because we all have the same goal, which is to maintain peace in the country. There are no problems. This is the picture that you will see. As for me, I have not changed at all.

It can't be otherwise. The election can't be otherwise. You keep trying to get me to talk about this.

[Question] Some say that this military change will lead to a political change, too.

[Answer] I will stand by what is right. I hope that you understand. Things can't be like that. In this election, everyone knows what is good and what is bad and what is right and what is wrong. We must make an effort to correct what is wrong. What I am concerned about it building up the people's hopes. The people expect too much from this election. We can't let the people become disappointed. We can't allow them to feel that things will never improve. Thus, it's obvious that we must help bring this about. We must develop things so that the people benefit.

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GENERAL PHICHIT STATUS AFTER ATHIT FIRING DISCUSSED

Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai 3-9 Jun 86 pp 14-16

[Unattributed report: "Big Sua's Position Following the Firing of Athit"]

[Text] One of the changes that has been revealed publicly following the firing of Gen Athit Kamlangk, whose only position now is that of supreme commander, is that Gen Prem Tinsulanon has been given the ranks of air chief marshal and admiral. It is not difficult to see why he was given these two ranks. The purpose was to increase the status of Gen Prem during the final 3 months of active duty of the supreme commander, who holds these ranks, too.

But there are many things, which have not been revealed, that will have to change after the new RTA CINC, Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, takes charge of the army. Many people are watching Lt Gen Phichit Kunlawanit, the 1st Army Area commander, to see what effect this will have on him.

Big Sua Has Been Very Quiet Ever Since the 9 September Rebellion

During the period that he was a major general and held the position of commander of the 1st Division, Big Sua played a very prominent role, and many people believed that he would soon become the RTA CINC. In this year's military reshuffle in September, he will undoubtedly be promoted to full general and made assistant RTA CINC. But Big Sua is now very quiet and does not seem to have any role at all. It seems that Lt Gen Phichit was greatly affected by the events of 9 September 1985. That was the start of his swift decline.

A senior news source in the army said that after the rebellion, Lt Gen Phichit found himself in a position even more difficult than that of "Big Mon," the culprit behind these events. "The real culprit is still trying to shift the blame to Lt Gen Phichit by focusing on the fact that Lt Gen Phichit negotiated with Col Manun Rupkhachon, with the result that Col Manun managed to flee abroad."

"But the decision to allow Col Manun to leave the country was not made by Lt Gen Phichit. He was just the middleman in the negotiations. He just obeyed orders. But some people are trying to use this to cast a shadow over Lt Gen Phichit," said a senior army officer. He said that what upsets Lt Gen Phichit the most is that it is these same people who are trying to shift the blame to him. He has become the only target of attack. This is what has led to Lt Gen

Phichit splitting away from certain senior officers and keeping quiet during the storm that has swept over the 1st Army Area commander.

A New Role With Prem Only

During March, when some officers were exerting pressure to secure an extension for Gen Athit Kamlangk, Big Sua, who played the leading role in gaining an extension for Gen Athit in 1985, kept aloof during these activities.

But then just a few days before Gen Prem decided to fire Gen Athit, Lt Gen Phichit held a party to celebrate the honorary degree given to Gen Athit. But that party did not have much of an effect on events. Also, before he held the party for Gen Athit, Lt Gen Phichit went to talk with Gen Prem at Ban Sisao in order to tell him that he would support any decision made by Gen Prem.

During that period, those who were trying to secure an extension for Gen Athit became very angry with Lt Gen Phichit. They had hoped that forces in the 1st Army Area would help exert pressure for granting an extension. But the 1st Army Area commander would not support them.

When Gen Chawalit was made RTA CINC and took up residence at Suan Phuttan, Lt Gen Phichit went and joined the party there. But he did not attend the birthday party for ML [royal title-FBIS] Khukrit Pramot at Soi Suan Phlu. Perhaps he did not go because of political differences ever since the conflict over revising the constitution in 1983. A second possible reason is that Lt Gen Phichit may have known that ML Khukrit was taking political action to topple Gen Prem following the meeting between ML Khukrit and Gen Athit.

An officer close to Lt Gen Phichit said that the only person whom Lt Gen Phichit respects today is Gen Prem. It seems that the ties between Lt Gen Phitchit, in his capacity as "Peter," and Gen Prem have been strong for some time and that they will remain strong. In particular, Lt Gen Phichit has moved away from Gen Athit in recent months and so it would be difficult for them to coordinate things.

The Most Recent Crisis and the Standpoint of the 1st Army Area

During the most recent attempt to gain power, which began when ML Khukrit lit the fuse and persuaded MPs to topple the government by defeating the royal act on 1 May, with the result that parliament was dissolved, Lt Gen Phichit was in Europe observing activities on behalf of the National Defense College. During the middle of May, when the situation became very tense, there were rumors that certain officers were preparing to use forces from the 1st Army Area to take action at a time when the 1st Army Area commander was out of the country. Finally, Maj Gen Yutthana Yaemphan, the deputy commander of the 1st Army Area, had to go see Gen Prem at the Government House in order to show support for Gen Prem.

On the morning of 27 May, when the Office of the Prime Minister announcement on the military appointments was made, the three 1st Army Area deputy commanders immediately went to Ban Suan Phuttan to say congratulations to Gen Chawalit. Lt Gen Phichit returned to Bangkok on the morning of 29 May. He went

to see Gen Chawalit and said that he would cooperate with him. He paid a courtesy visit to Gen Prem that same day.

The Conservatives' Representative in the Army

It is said that the estrangement between Lt Gen Phichit and Gen Athit resulted in Gen Athit losing his base of support among the conservatives, an important force with decisive influence on recent events. Gen Prem is the representative of one wing of the conservatives, and Lt Gen Phichit is the representative of the other wing. If a power group or power pole becomes involved in a confrontation with both Gen Prem and Lt Gen Phichit, it will not have the support of either wing of the conservative faction. Lt Gen Phichit still has a firm base of support among one wing of the conservatives. This wing will continue to guarantee the position of Lt Gen Phichit in the future.

Will 1988 Be the Turn of Big Sun?

Just a few days ago, Gen Chawalit again stated that he planned to remain in the military only 2 more years. That is, he plans to retire in September 1988 even though he can remain in government service until 1992.

Gen Chawalit has been saying this for several years. A military news source said that besides creating the impression that he has no desire to cling to power, this is also a way of compromising with the conservatives, or certain power groups. Because if Gen Chawalit held the position of RTA CINC for 6 or 7 years, that would definitely lead to a confrontation with certain groups.

However, the question is, after Gen Chawalit retires in September 1988, who will take his place? Lt Gen Phichit is one possibility. But Lt Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong and Lt Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun, both of whom are members of Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy [CRMA] Class 1, are other possible contenders for this position. In addition, Lt Gen Sunthon played a major role and showed open support for Gen Prem during the recent crisis.

It's true that Lt Gen Phichit has stronger forces outside. But inside the army, ever since Lt Gen Phichit and Gen Athit moved apart, Gen Athit has lacked a firm base of support and has grow progressively weaker. And Lt Gen Phichit, too, lacks a base of support within the army, particularly now that CRMA classes 1 and 5 are rising to the top.

But Lt Gen Phichit still has some hope of gaining a base of support within the army. One wing of CRMA Class 8, which is waiting its turn for divisional commands, once supported Lt Gen Phichit. The question is whether this wing of CRMA 8 will be crushed by those members of CRMA Class 8 who support Gen Chawalit. And it isn't known how many of them will be given divisional commands.

The military reshuffle in September will clarify things and enable us to see whether Big Chot or Big Sua will become the next RTA CINC.

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4TH ARMY OFFICER ON CPM, SEPARATIST PROBLEM IN SOUTH

Bangkok NAEW NA in Thai 22 May 86 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] Col Banchon Chawalasin, the spokesman for the 4th Army Area, talked with reporters at the Information Office, Supreme Command Headquarters, on 21 May about the terrorist situation in the area of responsibility of the 4th Army Area. He said that the communist terrorists are now very weak. They cannot form political organizations and so they have turned to banditry.

Col Banchon said that even though a Mujahideen group has been formed, claiming that it is fighting for justice for Thai Moslems, it cannot win because its claims are not based on fact. Government officials are showing an interest in and taking good care of the Thai Moslems and so there is now better understanding.

"Foreign support for the bandit terrorists is not the decisive factor. The important thing is that state officials must eliminate injustice," said the spokesman for the 4th Army Area.

As for the Malaysian communist guerrillas, Col Banchon said that the Thai government has been trying to suppress these guerrillas for 15 years now. This has cost much money. The National Security Council and the government are now taking a greater interest in this group now that the terrorist threat posed by other groups is declining.

Col Banchon said that the 4th Army Area has established a forward headquarters in Pattani Province and launched Operation Taksin 292 in order to suppress the Malaysian communist guerrillas in Betong, Thanto, and Bannang Sata districts in Yala Province and Waeng District and Sukhirin Branch District in Narathiwat Province. Military pressure will be applied along with stepping up development in order to reduce the level of activity of the guerrillas and stop this war in the future.

The spokesman for the 4th Army Area spoke about the need to suppress the Malaysian communist guerrillas. He said that they must be suppressed for three reasons: 1. The Malaysian communist guerrillas are using Thailand as a military base in their struggle against Malaysia, which has led to problems concerning national integrity. 2. The guerrillas are harming Thailand's economy by collecting illegal taxes. 3. The guerrillas have caused misunderstandings and harmed relations between Thailand and Malaysia.

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THAILAND

RICE PRICE GUARANTEE SCHEME TO END, EXPORTS DROP

Bangkok NABO WA in Thai 31 May 86 pp 1, 3

[Unattributed report: "Plan Has Failed, Rice Guarantee Budget Set at 200 Million But Only 10 Million Spent"]

[Text] Figures for the Ministry of Agriculture's rice price guarantee scheme show that the program has been a failure. The state provided 200 million baht, but only 10 million baht worth of rice has been purchased.

Mr Thaloeng Thamrongnawasawat, the under secretary of agriculture, talked with reporters on 30 May about the rice price guarantee scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture, which will end on 31 May. The cabinet has decided not to extend this program. He said that initial estimates show that 10 million of the allotted 216.8 million baht was spent. The money for this program came from the Farmers' Welfare Fund. A total of 135 million baht is deposited with the Thai Farmers' Bank, 62 million is deposited with Bangkok Bank, 9 million is deposited with the Thai Commerce Bank, 5 million is deposited with the Thai Military Bank, 3 million is deposited with the Krung Thai Bank, and 2.8 million baht is deposited with the Saha Bank. A total of 118 rice mills in 37 provinces are participating in the project. But only 46 mills in 20 provinces have been approved by the banks.

As part of the project, 4,566.73 metric tons of rice has been purchased at a cost of 10 million baht. The Marketing Organization for Agriculture, or MOA, is helping to prop up rice prices. There are 180 rice mills participating in its special program. But only 94 mills have filed support papers with capitalization of 543.92 million baht. A total of 269,000 metric tons of paddy has been purchased at a cost of 700 million baht. In another program, that is, the program to purchase paddy and pay the fertilizer debts with paddy, 26,000 metric tons of paddy has been purchased at a cost of 74 million baht. The MOA will continue this project until 31 August.

The agricultural cooperatives have collected a total of 187,000 tons of paddy from members in 48 provinces. This cost approximately 503 million baht.

A report from the Committee for the 1985/1986 Rice Price Guarantee Scheme stated that the reason why the program failed to achieve results was that not enough rice mills participated in the program. Also, demand for rice on the export market dropped. During the 1983/1984 production season, demand was 12 million tons. This fell to only 10 million tons in 1984/1986, which is the lowest that it has been in 30 years. It is thought that demand will increase to 10.9 million tons in 1985/1986.

THAILAND

SOCIALIST LEADER ON BACKGROUND, VIEWS, ELECTORAL PROSPECTS

Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai 9-15 Jun 86 pp 54, 55

[Life column by Manu Chanyong: "Col Somkhit Sisangkhom, the Lonely Socialist"]

[Text] "Even if our Social Democracy Party is unable to field the required number of candidates and I cannot run for election, I will stick with this party. I will not switch," said Col Somkhit Sisangkhom, a former soldier who has been in politics for many years and who is the leader of the Social Democracy Party, that morning in the basement of parliament. He is now 69 years old and has been abandoned by many of his old friends who shared his ideals.

"There were 15 of us who established this party. They have drifted away one by one. Mr Suthi Phuwaphan has left. Mr Khlaeo Norapoti is preparing to leave. Today, there are only three left, myself and Inson Buakhieo and Prasoet Loetyaso," said Col Somkhit.

When asked why he didn't switch parties, Col Somkhit said that "if I deserted the party, the party would cease to exist. Don't forget that I am not interested in rank and prestige. I want my work to score achievements regardless of how long it takes. Actually, if I switched, I would be better off. I might even be a minister. I would have a lot of money. I wouldn't have so many problems and wouldn't have to sell my property," said Col Somkhit openly.

"Do you think that the Social Democracy Party will be able to field the full number of candidates?"

"We will try. The law requires us to field 174 candidates. Some people are worried that we won't have enough money. I will request contributions from friends in various circles. I think that we will be able to find enough candidates before the filing period ends. If we can't, we won't field candidates, that's all," said the leader of the Social Democracy Party.

Before continuing with his remarks, I would like to provide a little background information on him.

Col Somkhit Sisangkhom was born in 1917 in Sang Khom Branch District, Udon Thani Province. His parents were farmers. He had nine brothers and sisters, but seven have died. He has four children. He completed secondary school and then earned a primary teaching credential. He earned his bachelor's degree and his master's degree in law from Thammasat University. He placed first on the Civil Service Commission examination and was given a scholarship to study sociology in England during the period 1949-1957. He took this opportunity to earn degrees in economics, political science, and the social sciences from the University of Birmingham and the College of Economics and Politics, London University.

Before entering politics, he worked as a teacher and as an assistant prosecutor. He served as an officer with the Judge Advocate General's Department. After that, he was persuaded by Dr Pui Ungphakon to go to work for the national bank. He observed activities in both Europe and the United States.

As for his political life, he served as an MP during two administrations. He was a member of the assembly and of the National Legislative Council. He was the leader of the Socialist Party of Thailand, and he is now the leader of the Social Democracy Party.

He is proud of the fact that he served on the committee that seized the assets of Field Marshal Sarit Thanarat. Besides that, he drafted the law to seize the assets of Field Marshal Thamom Kitikhachon, Field Marshal Praphat Charusathian, and Col Narong Kittikhachon. He hates corruption and those who exploit society.

When asked what made him decide to enter politics, Col Somkhit Sisangkhom replied that "I had had that idea for a long time. My parents were farmers. I felt that the Thai people were very poor and so I wanted to help them. When I was in grades 11 and 12, I thought about being a provincial governor. Because at that time, a governor had great power. I thought that if I became a governor, I could help the farmers. And so I studied very hard. I placed first in the country on the secondary school examination."

"Why did you become interested in socialism?"

"Because I felt that only socialism could solve society's problems and put a stop to exploitation. I felt that this path was superior to others. Although it wasn't perfect, it was much better than other paths. But you must be careful to make the distinction. Socialism is not communism. People will misunderstand. This could be used against me during the campaign. In previous periods, party members were attacked and some were even killed. Many fled into the jungle. It's not easy to become a socialist. You have to be a moral person. For example, Maha Chamlong, or Maj Gen Chamlong, is a socialist without knowing it.

"The teachings of all religions are quite similar. That is, all religions teach people not to harm or oppress others. They all teach compassion and kindness. This is similar to socialism. Religion does not force people to believe the sermons that they have heard or to practice the teachings. But in

the socialist system, there must be laws to force people to act accordingly. If they don't, they will be prosecuted according to the law," explained Col Somkhit.

"Do you think that you will be able to revive this party?"

"It will probably take a very long time. Time is the important factor."

"If you became prime minister, what would be the first problem you would tackle?"

"The first thing that I would focus on would be the economic problems. This is tied to the lives of the people. This is a major subject. I could talk for a long time on this subject."

"What can be done to eliminate the rot in political circles?"

"That will take time, too. In England, which gained the reputation of being the most democratic country in the world 200 years ago, they still buy votes in the middle of parliament. They even set up tables and pay in cash. They won't accept checks."

"Will it take us 200 years?"

"I don't think so. We have to build a new generation of people. There are three basic things necessary for those who want to serve the country: 1. quality, 2. morals, and 3. a standpoint. If the new generation possesses these three things, I don't think it will be too long before the corrupt people are replaced by good people. But it will take time."

"What can be done to get people to accept the Social Democracy Party," we asked in conclusion.

"Oh! I think that that will be very difficult. It will take time. It will take men and money. It is very difficult to fight against the capitalists. Regardless of what you do, someone will charge that you are a communist. It's really difficult," said Col Somkhit with a long sigh.

11943
CSO: 4207/259

THAILAND

BRIEFS

RICE-WEAPONS BARTER WITH ROK--A senior news source in the Government House told NAEON NA that Lt Gen Chantharakhup Sirisut, the acting secretary general of the prime minister, sent a letter dated 26 May to the ministries of defense and commerce asking them to consider the South Korean government's proposal to barter weapons for Thai agricultural products. The South Korean ambassador stationed in Thailand sent a letter dated 30 April to Gen Prem Tinsulanon, the acting prime minister, informing him of South Korea's proposal. The ministries of commerce and defense have received the letter of the secretary general of the prime minister. It is expected that the two ministries will establish a joint work team to consider this proposal. At present, Thailand and South Korea are already engaged in barter trade at the government-to-government level. Cassava pellets, string cassava, and corn are bartered for chemical fertilizers. Bartering agricultural products for weapons from the United States has been under consideration for a long time. But so far nothing has come of this. [Text] [Bangkok NAEON NA in Thai 4 Jun 86 pp 7, 10] 11943

CSO: 4207/255

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

HUN SEN RECEIVES SRV INSPECTION DELEGATION

BK190945 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Jun 86

[Text] Vietnam's State Inspection Commission delegation, headed by Comrade Bui Quang Tao, member of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of the commission, paid a courtesy call on Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of foreign affairs of the PRK, at the Council of Ministers office on the afternoon of 18 June.

Comrade Bui Quang Tao expressed satisfaction over his stay in Cambodia and the exchange of inspection work experiences with cadres from all state institutions attached to the central organs. He highly appreciated the Cambodian revolution's development, including inspection work, in carrying out all policies connected with the socioeconomic plan and all decrees and laws of the party and state.

In his return speech, Comrade Hun Sen welcomed the delegation for bringing with it knowledge to be shared and for further strengthening and expanding Cambodian-Vietnamese bonds of solidarity. He went on to stress that the victories of the Cambodian revolution thus far are attributable to the unreserved material and moral support of the Vietnamese party, state, and people. He spoke of the success of the fifth party congress and the major objectives in successfully carrying out the socioeconomic plan in the years to come.

/6091
CSO: 4212/87

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

FOREIGN MILITARY DELEGATIONS' ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Visit Infantry School, Army Museum

BK191430 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 19 Jun 86

[Text] On the afternoon of 19 June, the high-ranking military delegation of the SRV led by Comrade General Van Tien Dung, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of national defense of the SRV, accompanied by Comrade Koy Buntha, member of the KPRP Central Committee, deputy minister of national defense, and chief of the General Staff of the KPRAF, visited the infantry school and the army museum. As for the high-ranking military delegation of the LPDR led by Comrade General Khamtai Siphandon, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of national defense of the LPDR, the Army and Navy delegation of the USSR, and the Defense Ministry delegation of the Republic of Cuba, they lent their presence at the friendly soccer matches pitting the Lao People's Army team against the team of the Public Health Ministry and the VPA team against the KPRAF team.

Attend Art Performance

BK191001 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Jun 86

[Text] On the occasion of the celebration of the 35th anniversary of the KPRAF's tradition day and Army-People Solidarity Day, the high-ranking SRV military delegation led by Comrade General Van Tien Dung, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau and defense minister of the SRV; the high-ranking LPDR military delegation led by Comrade General Khamtai Siphandon, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and defense minister of the LPDR; the USSR Army and Navy delegation led by Comrade Admiral Smirnov, deputy commander in chief of the Soviet Navy; and the Cuban Defense Ministry delegation led by Comrade Rear Admiral Aldo Santamarina, deputy minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and commander in chief of the Cuban Navy, watched performances by the art troupes of the three Indochinese defense ministries at the Chattomuk conference hall on the evening of 18 June.

Also attending were Comrade Bou Thang, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of

of national defense of the PRK; Comrade Koy Buntha, member of the party Central Committee, deputy defense minister, and chief of the KPRAF General Staff; and several cadres, combatants, personnel, and workers from the Defense Ministry, other ministries, offices, factories, and state enterprises in Phnom Penh. Also present were the comrades ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary of socialist countries accredited to the PRK.

Visit Monument on Army Day

BK190536 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Jun 86

[Text] On the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the KPRAF traditional day and the Army-People Solidarity Day, at 0730 [0030 GMT], the high-ranking military delegation of the LPDR led by Comrade General Khamtai Siphandon, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and national defense minister of Laos; the delegation of the USSR Armed Forces and Navy led by Comrade Admiral Smirnov, commander of the USSR Navy [title as heard]; and the delegation from the National Defense Ministry of the Republic of Cuba led by Comrade Vice Admiral (Oldozan Tamaria Kurizado), deputy minister of the Cuban Armed Forces and commander of the Cuban Navy, laid wreaths at the monument of fallen Cambodian combatants to pay respect to the souls of ancestors and combatants who have sacrificed their lives in the cause of revolution and socialism.

/6091
CSO: 4212/87

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 16-22 JUNE

BK231237 [Editorial Report] Cambodian media monitored by Bangkok Bureau carried the following reports on agricultural developments in Cambodia during the reporting period 16-22 June:

National level: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 1300 GMT on 17 June reports that between the beginning of this year and the end of May, the department for buying farm and aquatic products of the Agriculture Ministry had bought almost 6,000 metric tons of agricultural products from 12 localities. In a report transmitted in French at 1219 GMT on 18 June, SPK says that during the past fishing season, 63,400 metric tons of fish were caught by fishermen throughout the country, 3,400 metric tons more than planned. The report adds that, during the first 5 months of this year, sea fishing produced 2,000 metric tons of sea products of the planned 6,000 metric tons. The report concludes that this year some 2,600 metric tons of fish and 20 metric tons of shrimp have been exported.

Kompong Cham Province: At 0430 GMT on 16 June, the radio reports that by mid-April, peasants in Stoeng Trang District had planted more than 450 hectares of corn, 170 hectares of mungbean, almost 20 hectares of tapioca, 350 hectares of peanuts, almost 800 hectares of sesame, and 30 hectares of subsidiary crops. At 1300 GMT on 16 June, the radio says that by mid-April peasants in Srei Santhor District had planted more than 200 hectares of subsidiary and industrial crops.

Kompong Speu Province: According to the radio at 1300 GMT on 17 June, by the end of May, peasants in Phnum Sruoch District had tilled 120 hectares of land, sowed more than 120 hectares of rice, transplanted 50 hectares of rice, and planted many hectares of subsidiary crops. In June, the trade service in Udong District bought more than 400 metric tons of surplus rice and collected more than 470 metric tons of patriotic contributions from local peasants, according to the radio at 1300 GMT on 21 June. In another report broadcast at 1300 GMT on 22 June, the radio says that by early June peasants in the province had tilled more than 3,500 hectares of land, sowed almost 1,000 hectares, and transplanted 469 hectares of rice; 1,660 hectares of subsidiary crops had also been planted.

Kompong Thom Province: According to the radio at 1300 GMT on 18 June, by the third week of May, peasants in Santuk District had broadcast almost 3,270 hectares of rice and planted almost 600 hectares of subsidiary crops.

Battambang Province: In a report broadcast at 0430 GMT on 20 June, the radio says that by early June peasants in the province had tilled more than 64,400 hectares of land, sowed more than 900 hectares, transplanted almost 200 hectares, and broadcast more than 34,000 hectares of various types of rice; more than 2,300 hectares of subsidiary crops and more than 3,400 hectares of industrial crops had also been planted.

Prey Veng Province: At 1300 GMT on 20 June, the radio reports that more than 9,000 metric tons of surplus rice had been sold to the state by local peasants, including nearly 1,500 metric tons of patriotic contributions.

Kampot Province: During the first quarter of this year, fishermen in the province caught nearly 200 metric tons of first-grade fish, nearly 300 metric tons of second-grade fish, and more than 300 metric tons of third-grade fish, according to the radio at 1300 GMT on 20 June.

Kompong Chhnang Province: In a report broadcast at 1300 GMT on 21 June, the radio says that by the end of May, peasants in Rolea P'ier District had planted more than 2,000 hectares of floating rice of the planned 2,400 hectares; 66 hectares of highland fields were tilled, and more than 100 hectares of subsidiary crops were planted, adds the report. At 0430 GMT on 22 June, the radio says that by early June, peasants in Baribo District had sold 22 metric tons of paddy to the state.

Svay Rieng Province: According to the radio at 1300 GMT on 22 June, by the end of May, peasants in Chantrea District had sold almost 1,200 metric tons of paddy to the state.

Kandal Province: In a report transmitted in French at 0459 GMT on 22 June SPK says that by early June, peasants in the province had tilled more than 14,200 hectares of land, sowed more than 4,200 hectares of rice, and planted more than 13,500 hectares of subsidiary crops, including 11,200 hectares of corn; 100,000 hectares of rice, including 32,800 hectares of intensive rice, are planned for this season. The report also says that this year, the provincial agricultural service has provided more than 1,000 metric tons of chemical fertilizers, 1,000 liters of insecticide, and 500 metric tons rice seed to local peasants. The same report says that so far peasants in Lvea Em District have planted more than 1,400 hectares of corn--more than 90 percent of the plan--and 150 hectares of sesame. For their part, peasants in Dangkao District have sowed more than 250 hectares of rice of the planned 9,000 hectares, which includes 1,200 hectares of intensive rice; the local agricultural service has provided 80 metric tons of chemical fertilizers to the peasants, concludes the report.

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CSO: 4212/87

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

HUN SEN GETS MPR THANKS--Comrade Dumaagiyn Sodnom, chairman of the MPR's Council of Ministers, recently sent a message of thanks to Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK's Council of Ministers, for expressing condolences when the Mongolian people suffered from prairie fire and storms. The message reads among other things: I deeply thank you for expressing condolences at the losses in human lives and material damage caused by prairie fire and storms in a number of provinces in my country. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 7 Jun 86 BK] /6091

SIEM REAP SECURITY FORCES OPERATIONS--During the 1985-86 dry-season campaign, cadres and combatants of the security forces in Puok District of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province in close cooperation with the Vietnamese army volunteers and the local militiamen and people launched more than 100 operations inside and outside the district. They killed almost 200 enemies, wounded more than 300, captured 30 others, including a battalion chief, and seized 65 assorted weapons and a large quantity of war materiel. The militiamen in various localities in the district launched nearly 20 independent operations against the enemies. They killed six enemies, wounded a dozen others, and seized four AK's and a quantity of war materiel. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 23 Jun 86 BK] /6091

310 ENEMY 'OUT OF ACTION'--According to statistics we have just received from all battlefields throughout the country, during the past week our armed forces and people in close cooperation with the Vietnamese army volunteers recorded brilliant feats by putting out of action 310 enemy elements--compared with only 191 during the previous week. Among these were 179 killed and 35 captured alive. We seized (781) guns, including 2 120-mm mortars, 1 82-mm mortar, and 2 60-mm mortars, 1,500 rounds of ammunition, 8 field radios and a large quantity of war materiel. Moreover, 98 enemy elements deserted the enemy ranks and returned to live with their families and the revolution, bringing along a large number of weapons. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 26 Jun 86 BK] /6091

RICE SEED SELECTION CENTER--Phnom Penh, 22 Jun (SPK)--As part of a cooperation agreement between the PRK and the USSR in the agricultural field, an experimental station for rice seed selection was set up earlier this year at Ankung Kangan, about 10 km west of Phnom Penh. With material and technical assistance from the Soviet Union, the center has carried out experimental research on agriculture and selection of rice seeds. The center also has carried out research on industrial crops. [Summary] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 1144 GMT 22 Jun 86 BK] /8918

COMMUNICATIONS DELEGATION RETURNS FROM SRV--Phnom Penh, 20 Jun (SPK)--A delegation of Cambodia's Communications, Transport, and Posts Ministry led by Minister Tie Banh, alternate member of the KPRP Central Committee, returned to Phnom Penh on 17 June after completing a friendly visit to Vietnam. During its stay, the delegation was received by Dong Sy Nguyen, alternate member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of communications and transportation. It had working sessions with the Ministry of Communications and Transportation and the General Directorate of Posts. It also visited some transport and postal services in Hanoi, Haiphong, Ha Nam Ninh, Thai Binh, and Quang Ninh. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0446 GMT 20 Jun 86 BK] /8918

CSO: 4219/44

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM

NHAN DAN COMMENTARY VIEWS U.S. GLOBALISM

BK261045 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 24 Jun 86

[NHAN DAN commentary: "New U.S. Globalism"—date not given]

[Text] The Reagan Administration has recently talked about a new globalism when speaking of U.S. foreign policy. What is the real content of the new U.S. globalism?

Responding in an interview with the Algerian weekly THE AFRICAN REVOLUTION, Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU, remarked: This is a hastily molded doctrine aimed at serving as a fulcrum for U.S. policy. It is actually nothing new—only the plot of returning to the classic, outdated system of banditry.

And so it is. The Reagan Administration has fabricated this new concept to justify its imperialist acts of aggression and intervention all over the world, which are spearheaded at the Soviet Union and the socialist community as a whole, grossly violating the independence and sovereignty of nations and threatening international peace and security. This new U.S. doctrine tries to deceive the public into thinking that the current U.S. activities in the international arena are the new stage in the struggle of democratic nations against the expansion of communism.

This deceitful and hypocritical U.S. theme can be laid bare easily when it is compared to the Reagan Administration's actions in many parts of the world. In Asia, the United States continues to maintain tens of thousands of soldiers in South Korea and given comprehensive support to the dictatorial lackey regime of Chon Tu-hwan to prolong the partition of this country arrogantly and prevent the peaceful reunification of Korea on the basis of democracy.

In the Philippines, after putting forth an irrational demand for a U.S. delegation to supervise the 7 February general elections in Manila, the United States has dispatched a cruiser and an aircraft carrier to its Subic Bay base to exert pressure on the new regime and maintain the Clark and Subic Bay bases. In a press conference, U.S. President Reagan himself stated bluntly: I know of nothing as important as these two bases.

In regard to the Indochinese countries, the United States still clings to the political corpse of CGDK, the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique's screen, to sabotage the national reconstruction of the Cambodian people under the leadership of the legal government headed by President Heng Samrin. The Pentagon has increased its military aid to Thailand and is even proceeding to establish U.S. arsenals in that country, gradually returning U.S. troops to this region.

In the Middle East and Northern Africa, the United States has exposed itself ever more notoriously as an international terrorist chieftain while loudly slandering countries that resolutely oppose Israel and support the Palestine people's national liberation cause as international terrorists. Ronald Reagan personally gave the green light for a series of military provocations and for air and naval forces to attack Tripoli and Benghazi brazenly, violating the sovereignty and territorial integrity of an independent country. The Pentagon added that the United States is ready to launch new attacks on Libya and has begun to pose a similar threat to Syria.

Moreover, the Reagan Administration continues to give Israel--the enemy of the Arabs' independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity--several billion U.S. dollars worth of military aid annually, most of it gratis.

In Southern Africa, the United States still maintains the so-called policy of constructive engagement with the Pretoria apartheid administration of minority colonialists who are usually called true, historic U.S. allies and praised for their true democracy by Reagan himself.

The United States has overlooked all the bloody acts of terrorism by the Botha clique against the majority African community. It has even overlooked a series of piratic attacks by Pretoria on neighboring countries among the Frontline African States to force them to discontinue supporting the ANC [African National Congress]-led African people's patriotic struggle for independence and freedom.

Early this year, the Reagan Administration received in the White House with all solemn rites the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] bandit chieftain Savimbi and promised to give millions of U.S. dollars in military aid to UNITA to harrass and oppose the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] government of the Republic of Angola.

In Latin America, the United States continues to maintain its hostile attitude toward the Republic of Cuba and particularly has spearheaded its attacks on Nicaragua, the most recent deceitful claim being to prevent a bridgehead of the Warsaw Treaty bloc on the U.S. doorstep.

Disregarding the principled and good-will stand of the Sandinist Administration that supports the Contadora initiatives and advocates a policy of dialogue with the United States, the Washington Administration is escalating its military adventure against this sovereign Central American state through the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. Reagan himself has personally pressed the U.S. Congress to appropriate \$100 million to feed and arm the rebels.

The United States has thus far not relinquished its support for the dictatorial Pinochet regime that the Chilean people have opposed for many years now.

To sum up, the Reagan Administration's acts from Asia to Africa and Latin America show that the United States has changed only the name of its policy toward other nations and not the true nature of that policy of imperialist aggression and anticomunism.

U.S. foreign policy, controlled by the U.S. military-industrial complex, is consistently based on the show of military strength in combination with economic and political pressure designed to expand and impose U.S. domination on independent nations. This policy is a threat to international security and peace.

The new U.S. globalism has been and is being rejected and opposed by the world's people.

/9738

CSO: 4209/656

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

DISTRICT SECRETARY INTERVIEWED ON COOPERATIVES, CONDITIONS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 23 Apr 86 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Nguyen Van Thang, a member of the Municipal CPV Committee and the secretary of the Cu Chi District CPV Committee, by Tran Loc and Mai Van: "The Reality of the Agricultural Cooperative Movement and a Number of Problems Concerning Living Conditions. A Key District That Has Made Many Positive Changes but That Also Has Many Problems That Need To Be Solved; There Are Still Many Weak Cooperatives; 18 Newly-Formed Cooperatives Have Not Gone Into Collective Production Because Time Has Been Used as the Target and Quantity Has Been Used as the Norm; the Conditions Exist but the Living Conditions of the Poor Peasants Have Not Been Given Good Attention; Investments in Agricultural Production Are Inadequate; and Cadres Show Off by Building Brick Houses and Traveling by Car"; date and place not specified]

[Text] Cu Chi is one of the city's and country's important districts concerning district development. In recent years, the Cu Chi District CPV Committee has been very active and creative in providing leadership and guidance in carrying out the tasks. The party organization and people of Cu Chi have scored significant initial achievements in building, reforming, and expanding the economy and society. Cu Chi suffered heavy damage in the war. But now it has restored all economic and social activities, and the face of the rural areas is being changed. The district has completed projects, made decisions on six crops, among which short-term industrial crops are the spearhead, and six types of livestock. The district is building 5 economic and technical zones and 21 clusters in conjunction with building political, security, and national defense forces. Based on these projects, Cu Chi is making an effort to exploit its potential and its strengths. In agricultural production, the district has established three specialized cultivation areas: short-term industrial crops, rice, and vegetables. It has begun to create a stable base of agricultural products for export. Since 1985, Cu Chi has supplied enough grain for the entire district. As for industrial and small industry and handicrafts production, the district has formed four main sectors: processing agricultural products, producing building materials, producing repair machinery, and obtaining and processing forest products. Cu Chi has invested 69.4 percent of its budget in building a material and technical base to support production and life. In reforming agriculture, the district has established a number of representative cooperatives and has had a number of good experiences concerning organizing and managing agricultural

production in all respects based on the agriculture, industry, commerce, information, service, and export model. Today, the Cu Chi District CPV Committee is organizing a self-criticism and criticism campaign throughout the party organization in order to exploit the strengths and overcome the shortcomings. It is resolved to advance Cu Chi steadily in accord with the slogan "bulwark land of steel." SAIGON GIAI PHONG reporters interviewed Nguyen Van Thang, a member of the Municipal CPV Committee and the secretary of the Cu Chi District CPV Committee, on a number of problems about which the cadres, party members, and people in the district are concerned.

[Question] The 10 April 1986 report reviewing the district's 1985 agricultural reform activities states that Cu Chi has built 95 cooperatives and 7 production collectives, collectivized 92.94 percent of the land and 89.6 percent of the peasant households in the district. This is very encouraging news. But many cadres and peasants in the district are still worried and do not really believe this.

[Answer] It's true that some cadres and people in the locality and outside the district still have doubts about this. As you know, the resolution of the CPV Central Committee stipulated that Nam Bo was to strive to virtually complete agricultural cooperativization by the end of 1985. The city directed us to strive to complete this task ahead of time. As a result, Cu Chi announced that it had completed agricultural cooperativization by the end of 1984, with the most widespread form being cooperatives. But the quality was still low. In 1985, the district concentrated on solidifying and improving the quality of the cooperatives. But to date, it must be admitted that the quality of the agricultural cooperatives in Cu Chi is still low. There are still many inferior cooperatives. The reason for this is that we used time as the struggle target and number as the norm. We did not use expanding production and improving the standard of living for the cooperative members as the struggle targets of agricultural reform.

[Question] What types of cooperatives are inferior?

[Answer] The district recently conducted an inspection and classified the 95 cooperatives. The results were: 26 progressive cooperatives, 26 good cooperatives, 25 average cooperatives, and 18 inferior cooperatives. The inferior cooperatives are recently-established cooperatives where a management framework was just formed. They have not yet become involved in collective production. Production is still based on the production solidarity team model or on individual peasant households.

[Question] What about the average cooperatives?

[Answer] Management boards and production units have been established. But land has been parcellled out to the cooperative members based on original cultivation on the spot. Cooperative members have not contributed shares, and the cooperatives do not have accumulated capital or three funds.

[Question] Among the 26 progressive cooperatives in the district, we know that 2 of the production units at the Hiep Loi Cooperative in Phu My Hung Village and 9 of the 11 production units at the An Nhon Cooperative in An Nhon Tay

Village have not yet become involved in collective work. Everyone works his own fields.

[Answer] Of the 26 progressive cooperatives in the district, only 5 are Type A progressive cooperatives. Those five are the Quyet Thanh, Tan My 1, Dong Thuan An, Tan Thanh, and Tan Thong 1 cooperatives. These cooperatives were built based on the agriculture, industry, commerce, service, and export model. Production has expanded, and rice yields have reached more than 10 tons per hectare per year in some places. The incomes of the cooperative members are much higher than individual incomes. As for the Hiep Loi and An Nhon cooperatives that you mentioned, these are Type C progressive cooperatives.

[Question] How many Type C progressive cooperatives are there?

[Answer] Twelve.

[Question] Do you think that the cooperatives classified as average and inferior are really collective economic units?

[Answer] They are cooperatives whose quality is still poor.

[Question] Would you tell us about the actual situation at the 18 cooperatives that have not yet become involved in collective production?

[Answer] This winter-spring season, because of the extended drought, the seedlings died. The above cooperatives don't have any more production seed. A number of other cooperatives that are located in the Dong Canal water conservancy project construction zone made contract plans, but they have had to make changes. Because of this, the people are temporarily carrying on individual production.

[Question] Why does the district continue to call these cooperatives?

[Answer] Because these cooperatives have a management framework, a model, and the qualifications of a juristic person.

[Question] But the fields have not yet been collectivized, collective production has not been organized, and everyone works his own fields.

[Answer] The people have applied to join the cooperatives, but because of the difficulties that I mentioned above, they are temporarily carrying on individual production.

[Question] Then the real nature of production there is individual production.

[Answer] That's right.

[Question] What percentage of the peasant households in the district are engaged in individual work at these 18 cooperatives?

[Answer] About 15 to 20 percent. (According to many cadres who are engaged in agricultural reform work in the city and in Cu Chi District and many local

peasants, the percentage of peasant households that have applied to join the cooperatives but that are still engaged in individual production is much higher than that--reporter).

[Question] In the coming period, what will the District CPV Committee do to solidify and improve the quality of the cooperatives?

[Answer] The District CPV Committee has decided that 1986 and the coming years will be the years in which we consolidate and improve the quality of the cooperatives. The requirement that has been set is that quality is to be used as the struggle target. Crops yields and the incomes of the cooperative members are to be used as the criteria for measuring quality. By the end of the year, all the cooperatives with a framework must be put into collective production.

As for what measures will be used, we will use resolutions 6, 7, and 8 of the party, improve the management mechanism, and implement the policies in order to stimulate production. Specifically, we will concentrate on providing materials for the production activities of the cooperatives. Previously, this was the responsibility of administrative organizations. But now we have established two crop and livestock service corporations to provide materials on schedule. Besides this, we will invest in building additional support projects for the agricultural cooperativization movement. These include power, water conservancy, and rural communications projects. We will give special attention to remote areas and former resistance bases. We will focus on using the scientific and technical advances in production in order to increase crop yields and step up animal husbandry. We will continue to train the cadres and improve their management capabilities. The district now has 5,000 cooperative management cadres, but their capabilities are still weak. They must be given training in order to improve their capabilities and quality.

[Question] We have visited quarters and hamlets in Cu Chi and seen that the laborers are still encountering many difficulties in their material and spiritual lives. For example, there is a shortage of classrooms. Children have to attend a third shift. But at the same time, materials have been set aside to build nice offices for the 20 village committees. Can it be that the District CPV Committee has the capabilities but has not given the proper amount of attention to improving the standard of living?

[Answer] In recent years, the district has striven to provide 95 houses and supply 500 house frames for the families in the policy category. But this is insufficient as compared with the needs of a district such as Cu Chi that suffered serious destruction during the war. It's true that the standard of living of a number of laborers, wounded soldiers, and retired cadres in Cu Chi are still very difficult, particularly in the villages in the former liberated zones. One of our shortcomings is that in recent years, we have concentrated on building public welfare projects in the towns along the main roads. Little has been done to help the villages in remote areas. The district still needs another 60 classrooms. This shortcoming is due to the fact that planning has not been based on the growth of the population. Thus, each year the district builds more classrooms, but children still have to attend a third shift. The district plans to solve this problem by 1987.

[Question] Kerosene is a necessity in daily life, but there is still not enough to enable people in remote villages to use their lamps.

[Answer] That's right. One reason is that the amount of kerosene sold to the peasant households based on the quotas is not adequate for this. Another reason is that sometimes, during distribution the kerosene allotted by the city does not reach the consumers, especially those in remote areas. This is a shortcoming of the Cu Chi commerce sector. We are trying to correct this. Recently, we prosecuted a case at the Tan Phu Trung Marketing Cooperative. This cooperative took 2,000 liters of kerosene for distribution to the people. But the notice stating when the kerosene would be sold was not sent out to all the places and so the people did not come to make purchases. The cooperative then took the kerosene and sold it on the black market. We have dismissed the director of the marketing cooperative.

[Question] The kerosene sold to the peasants by the city is inadequate, but we think that the district could do more by importing more. We don't import essential goods needed to support the standard of living, but we do import Honda coupes for distribution to a number of cadres. Why is this? This has led to a loss of internal solidarity and to complaints by the peasants.

[Answer] During the past term, the District CPV Committee made mistakes in this work. Cu Chi is an agricultural district, and the district's export products are produced by the peasants. But in recent years, the percentage of commodities imported to support production and fulfill the essential needs of the people has accounted for only 60 percent of total imports. The district has used the rest of the foreign currency to import other types of consumer goods and sell them on the markets in order to put the profits in the district budget. Cu Chi has not imported Honda coupes directly. Rather, the urban wards and IMEXCO have imported these vehicles and used them to obtain commodities from the district. We obtained five vehicles in the initial phase, and these were sold to five mass organizations at the original price of 70,000 dong (former currency). The vehicles sent to the district in later phases were sold on the markets at high prices (from 195,000 to 200,000 dong prior to the currency change). Anyone, including cadres and ordinary citizens, could buy one. The district's leadership was loose in distributing the vehicles and so a number of cadres and people became upset. We have been criticized by the city for not importing goods to support agricultural production. We have reviewed things and gained experience and decided that the district will use most of the foreign currency to import materials to expand production and necessary goods such as kerosene and cloth to support the standard of living.

[Question] People in Cu Chi wonder where a number of cadres in positions of responsibility in the district get the money to build large brick houses for themselves and for their children and other relatives along highways 8 and 22. At the same time, other cadres, workers, and civil servants in the district lack housing, and the peasants are poor and cannot afford to purchase even a bag of cement to repair their pigsties. What do you think about this?

[Answer] We listened to the people's opinions on this. Following that, the District CPV Committee reviewed the matter and inspected each comrade. Cu Chi

suffered much damage in the war and so most of the people here lack housing. During the past 10 years, through the movement to build "tinh nghia" housing and supply housing frames to the families in the policy category, sell materials based on the subsidy prices to the families that have encountered difficulties, and build housing in cooperation with the people, to date, more than 50 percent of the houses in Cu Chi District are brick and tile or sheet metal houses. Some of these belong to cadres. The people have asked where some cadres have obtained the money to build brick houses. There are two sources. Some engage in family economic activities such as growing pepper and raising pigs. And the district has distributed lumber and materials to a number of cadres based on the standards, such as families in other policy categories. A number of cadres in Cu Chi have much experience in family production. Also, some cadres know people at the units and purchase materials cheaply. They have built nice houses that are somewhat too expensive. But in general, there haven't been any major problems. However, we have made mistakes in this. The district must save materials for sale to the families of retired cadres and peasant families that have encountered many difficulties. It would be better if they built their houses before the cadres.

[Question] What you have said raises another question. Usually, the peasants who raise pigs just manage to break even. Why is it that a number of cadres who raise pigs manage to make enough money to build brick houses?

[Answer] A number of these people know people and can buy bran more "easily." In growing pepper, they have a relationship with this or that place and can purchase pepper plants cheaply. But if we discover that anyone has engaged in corruption, we prosecute them immediately. For example, we recently dismissed the deputy director of the district bank and expelled him from the party for corrupt financial dealings.

[Question] Some people say that the cadre organization in Cu Chi is still characterized by "localism" and that the district has not enabled people from other places to come work here, including cadres transferred by the city.

[Answer] That is not true! Cu Chi welcomes cadres from other places, especially scientific and technical cadres, who want to come work here. The proof of this is that today, almost all the cadres in the education and public health sectors are from other places. I and the other people engaged in organizational work have gone to the colleges and asked cadres to come to the district.

[Question] A number of cadres and people in Cu Chi wonder about the new Toyota automobile that you use. It is said that the district purchased this automobile for \$8,000. Would you clarify this matter for the people?

[Answer] This automobile was imported by Precinct 11 and sold to the district marketing cooperative for 400,000 dong (new currency). The district marketing cooperative didn't dare use it and so it offered it as a replacement for the old vehicle of the district office. The district office felt that this was a new vehicle and would save repair costs, and it was cheap. Thus, it was proposed that my old vehicle be replaced and that the marketing cooperative be paid several hundred thousand dong. This vehicle has nothing to do with the district's dollars. This car is far superior to my old one because repairs don't have to be made. Seeing me in this car, a few people have gotten the wrong idea. I won't use it anymore!

[Question] Thank you for granting us this interview.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

PRECINCT LEADERS INTERVIEWED ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 25 Apr 86 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Nguyen Van Hanh, a member of the Municipal CPV Committee and the Precinct 1 CPV Committee secretary, and Do Ngoc Trinh, the deputy secretary: "Precinct 1's Shortcomings, Which Were Said To Be too General, Have Been Made More Specific. Criticism and Self-Criticism Has Not Been Emphasized; Reform Has Achieved Certain Results But There Are Still Many Shortcomings and Negative Aspects; Shareholders Continue to Bribe Those Engaged in Reform Work; the Import of Rather Large Amounts of High-Level Commodities and Luxuries Is a Shortcoming; Materials and Raw Materials Are Imported Haphazardly; Bureaucratic Centralism Is a Problem at the Precinct and Subdistrict CPV Committees; the Good Qualities of Many Cadres and Party Members Have Not Been Underestimated, but Negative Aspects Are Still Rather Widespread and Serious; Much Effort Has Been Made To Look After Living Conditions, but an Even Greater Effort Is Needed; the Precinct CPV Committee Does Not Really Understand the People's Difficulties"; date and place not specified]

[Text] "The shortcomings mentioned in the article 'Precinct 1 Prepares to Engage in Criticism and Self-Criticism' by Nguyen Van Hanh, the secretary of the Precinct 1 CPV Committee, which was printed in SAIGON GIAI PHONG, are too general." That is the view expressed by many readers. To contribute to resolving this matter, we interviewed Nguyen Van Hanh, a member of the Municipal CPV Committee and the Precinct 1 CPV Committee secretary, and Do Ngoc Trinh, the deputy secretary. The view expressed by readers was the first question that we asked these Precinct 1 leaders.

Nguyen Van Hanh: That's right. Although those are just initial ideas, they are still rather superficial and inadequate ideas. The Standing Committee of the Precinct CPV Committee has not held collective debates in order to achieve unity on specific problems. After we receive guidelines on self-criticism and criticism from the Municipal CPV Committee, we will meet with the key cadres in the Precinct and in Subprecinct 20, with retired cadres, and with Communist Youth Union members. The ideas contributed by these people will form the basis for the Precinct CPV Committee to engage in deeper and more specific self-criticism. It can also be said that during the past term, we did not emphasize

self-criticism and criticism, particularly from the bottom up. During the activities of the Standing Committee of the Precinct CPV Committee, people were too considerate of each other, and they were too complacent and tended to run after achievements.

Reporter: In your article, you said that the shortcoming in reform work is one of the main shortcomings that the Precinct 1 CPV Committee and People's Committee must review. But in the 1985 emulation review report, the Precinct 1 People's Committee mentioned the "striking" achievements of commercial reform, such as that 80 percent of the wholesalers and 70 percent of the retailers have been kept and 8,500 A, B, and C households have been reformed. What do you think about this? Has Precinct 1 virtually completed commercial reform?

Nguyen Van Hanh: In 1982 and 1983, we slighted reform work. The markets were in disarray, and this further divided the classes. After the Political Bureau issued resolutions on this problem, we carried on commercial reform activities at the end of 1984 and in 1985. Today's forms of reforming commerce are correct, and they have achieved specific results in maintaining wholesale operations and expanding retail operations. But those results are not enough to conclude that Precinct 1 has virtually completed the work of reforming commerce. These recent activites just served to rearrange and reorganize things. There are still many shortcomings and negative aspects in this work. For many shareholders, the "outside leg is longer than the inside leg." They use the name "cooperative business" to engage in illegal trading activities and make huge profits. We have prosecuted many cases, but there are still many negative aspects.

Reporter: The public's opinion is that the cooperative business installations have contributed to pushing prices higher, because they must "support" a large number of state employees at these stores. This is without mentioning various negative phenomena such as bribery by shareholders and "assurances." What do you think about this opinion?

Nguyen Van Hanh: That's right. We have controlled, discovered, reviewed, and prosecuted many cases, but negative phenomena still exist.

Reporter: Based on this, we would like to raise the subject of carrying on the three revolutions simultaneously in reform work. Mai Chi Tho stressed this in his recent interview with reporters. What has the Precinct 1 CPV Committee done to carry out this task?

Nguyen Van Hanh: We have controlled, supervised, and educated the cadres and workers and the shareholders in the cooperative business stores. Many people have been disciplined, with the punishments ranging from being given warnings to being suspended or fired. But these measures have not achieved good results. Shareholders continue to pay bribes to people engaged in reform work. Not only do they promise breakfast and lunch, but they give people money and gold. Based on the ideas of Mai Chi Tho, we can say that Precinct 1 has just begun to reform production relationships. Educating people, that is, carrying on the cultural and ideological revolution, requires great effort, because dishonest ways of making money are still quite prevalent in private commerce even though they have accepted reform. This is the responsibility of the

Standing Committee of the Precinct CPV Committee. To be specific, it is the responsibility of the vice chairman in charge of distribution and circulation and the directors of the corporations. The corporation directors are still chasing profits and have forgotten about educating people. The Standing Committee of the Precinct CPV Committee is guiding this work directly.

Reporter: At which units have trade disputes occurred? Who are the disputes with?

Do Ngoc Trinh: The disputes are between the foreign and domestic trade corporations in the precinct and in other localities. The Export Goods Supply Corporation is in a favorable position and refuses to be bound by the price framework of the Commercial Service. The domestic trade corporations that purchase export agricultural products don't want to deliver goods to the precinct export goods supply corporation because they have to go through IMEXCO. There are many problems, the "doi luu" goods arrive late and the capital recovery period is slow. They want to deal directly with the foreign commerce corporations of the Export Central Committee. The goods would arrive quicker. These trade disputes have caused difficulties in controlling prices and given rise to many negative phenomena.

Reporter: The 1985 emulation report of the Precinct People's Committee stated that more than 50 percent of the precinct export sector's imports were raw materials and spare parts to support production and communications and transportation. What were the other 50 percent of the commodities? Were high-level consumer goods such as color television sets and coupes imported? If so, how were such goods distributed? Were they distributed internally, such as in a number of other wards and districts?

Do Ngoc Trinh: High-level consumer goods were imported in rather large quantities. Some were distributed to the cadres in the precinct, and some were used to make exchanges with other provinces. It can be said that this is a shortcoming. We have criticized the committee and export sector many times. Internal distribution has created many internal problems and created a bad impression among the masses. Even though almost 60 percent of imports were raw materials and other materials, they were not supplied to the production installations in the precinct. They were distributed haphazardly. They were sent anywhere where they would "fetch a good price."

Reporter: What has the Standing Committee of the Precinct CPV Committee done to put a stop to this?

Nguyen Van Hanh: We have given reminders and reviewed things many times, but there has not been any change. And what is the purpose in "importing" Saigon cigarettes and canned beer? If you ask, the export supply sector will tell you that it is to pay the debts. It says the same thing even for Peugeot 505 automobiles and says that this is an import form. We have not approved allowing cadres to use such cars and including them in the commodity fund. It must also be said that to date, Precinct 1 has never imported any equipment for production even though the resolutions of the party committee echelons have mentioned this many times. As for materials, only cement, roofing material, and 5mm glass used for construction have been imported. But the

construction demand for 5mm glass is not very great. I have heard that some places serve as glass trading centers and that they have made a "pile" of gold. Gasoline and oil or chemicals that do not support precinct production account for almost 50 percent. Take the recent import of laxatives that were sold to Tien Giang, for example. These are counted as materials, but they certainly don't support production in the precinct.

Reporter: Has the Precinct CPV Committee given any guidance on this?

Do Ngoc Trinh: The Precinct CPV Committee has given general guidance. That is, an effort has been made to import the maximum amount of goods. No specific guidance has been given. It must also be admitted that the Precinct CPV Committee has been lax about the import of coupes. The People's Committee and the Export Goods Supply Corporation have been allowed to distribute the cars as they see fit. They have distributed them to employees, cadres, and friends. People have complained about this. Prices have been set arbitrarily at one-half or one-third of the market price depending on the target. This has consumed a large amount of the budget.

Reporter: Based on the above, could it be that the Standing Committee has failed to struggle boldly and that it is too considerate, with the result that the party committee echelons cannot lead the people's committees in implementing the resolutions?

Nguyen Van Hanh: Internal struggle is a key problem. However, it must be said that the shortcoming of the Precinct CPV Committee is that it has been lax in controlling the implementation of the resolutions. It has not provided concrete guidance in handling the mistakes. The people's committees have been slow in implementing the resolutions and have done things in a bureaucratic and authoritarian manner. Sometime, production plans submitted for approval by production installations are not checked for 1, 3 or even 6 months, and by that time they are out of date. Many times, the prices in the economic contracts are out of date by the time they are approved. In this campaign, the Precinct CPV Committee has directed the people's committees to make reviews in front of the key cadres of the precinct and 20 subprecincts and the precinct people's councils. They will certainly have many ideas and criticize things that the people's committees can correct. The party committee echelons must review bureaucratism, which has led to many mistakes and kept the echelons from responding quickly to the problems of the masses.

Reporter: What aspects of the Precinct 1 party and administrative apparatus are still cumbersome and ineffective?

Nguyen Van Hanh: The apparatus of the Precinct CPV Committee Organization Department is still cumbersome and ineffective. Above all, it takes a long time to have salary increases and promotions for cadres approved. In some cases, it has been 5-7 years since cadres received a promotion. Party development is very bureaucratic. When the party bases submit files, if there is a problem, the Organization Department and the party base must determine what the problem is and solve it. But problems are brushed aside. The Precinct CPV Committee Control Department stops at controlling things and enforcing discipline. It does not control the implementation of the decisions. One

reason is that the capabilities of the control cadres are still weak. Another reason is the mechanism. The Control Department does not rely closely on the leadership of the Standing Committee of the Precinct CPV Committee, and the Standing Committee does not go into things deeply. It selects poor-quality control cadres and does not give attention to capabilities. The mass organizations are ineffective, too. They have not promoted the revolutionary movements of the masses or exploited their ownership rights in the struggle against negative aspects. This is particularly true of the Communist Youth Union. A number of cadres in positions of responsibility who have made mistakes or deteriorated have not been dealt with strictly.

Reporter: A specific case involves the secretary, chairman, and security force chief in Subprecinct 14, Precinct 1. They covered up the illegal trading activities of a CPV Committee member, that is, the director of a small industry and handicrafts cooperative. These three people were not disciplined and were even transferred to the precinct. This greatly displeased the people in Subprecinct 14. What do you think about this?

Nguyen Van Hanh: We will review this matter.

Reporter: Which organizations in the precinct are the most overbearing and the slowest?

Nguyen Van Hanh: Bureaucratic centralism is most prevalent in the precinct and subprecinct people's committees. When people file complaints, the matter is passed from one place to another and from one person to another. And as I mentioned earlier, approving production plans and economic contracts is done in a very bureaucratic manner. The public security, commerce, and housing sectors are very bureaucratic and overbearing. In the housing sector, bribes are paid quite often, and because of this the distribution of housing is unfair. The percentage of precinct cadres and public security personnel who committed violations in 1985 doubled as compared with 1984. Between 1981 and 1985, the Precinct CPV Committee disciplined 397 party members and expelled 149 party members from the party. However, in my view, the control and inspection of violations committed by cadres and party members is still weak.

Reporter: Based on your observations, we would like to ask how the Precinct CPV Committee evaluates the cadres and party members in the precinct.

Nguyen Van Hanh: We have not underevaluated the growth and good points of many cadres and party members during the past 10 years. But it must be admitted that negative aspects are still rather widespread and serious. In my view, there are three types of inferior cadres and party members. First are the decadent and degenerate ones. Second are those who act in a bureaucratic and overbearing manner and who remain aloof from the masses. Third are the inferior cadres and party members whose work results are poor, perhaps because of a lack of talent or because of a loss of revolutionary zeal, a decline in their spirit of responsibility, or a loss of class feeling regarding the people. During this self-criticism and criticism campaign, the quality of the

party members must be reevaluated, education must be strengthened, the combat strength of the party members must be increased, and degenerate party members who commit violations, whose quality has declined, and who are no longer qualified to be party members must be dealt with strictly.

Reporter: We would like to discuss the attention that the Precinct 1 CPV Committee has given to the standard of living. The 1985 emulation report of the Precinct People's Committee is very long, but it never mentions giving attention to the people's standard of living. What is your opinion on this sector?

Nguyen Van Hanh: As for giving attention to people's living conditions, the precinct has put forth much effort. But it has still not done enough. This is another manifestation of bureaucratism and remaining aloof from the masses. The Precinct CPV Committee has not monitored the poor families and laborers closely and does not really understand the difficulties and problems of the people. Recently, the task of providing rice to the poor people in Subdistrict 15 was carried out very slowly even though the Council of Ministers issued a directive on this and the Precinct CPV Committee provided guidance. Previously, the precinct sold 400 poor people 9 kg of rice each at a price 40 xu [1 xu equals 0.01 dong]. But this was stopped when the price of rice increased. They have been given only 20-30 dong in financial assistance, which is not enough to purchase rice. To date, the Precinct People's Committee has not solved this problem.

Reporter: Precinct 1 has many tall and spacious buildings, but it also has many small and dilapidated buildings. In Subprecinct 15, there are thousands of people who are living in squalor. How would you evaluate the attention given to the housing problem?

Nguyen Van Hanh: At present, Precinct 1 still has 4,000 shanty buildings along the canals and ditches that have not been razed. In Subprecinct 15, there are 541 households totaling 2,655 people who are eking out an existence in the Ma Lang zone. Among these are 240 households from Precinct 1 who have returned from new economic zones and 171 households from other precincts. The others are from other provinces. The failure to look after these people is a shortcoming of the Precinct CPV Committee. But the fact is that without the help of the other precincts and the city, Precinct 1 cannot do the job. It will take about 50 million dong to clear away the shanty buildings. The precinct's budget is very small. The municipal agencies responsible should all help with this. Besides this, we must also provide jobs for the people, provide vocational classes, and open schools for their children. The Precinct CPV Committee is concentrating on providing child care at day nurseries and kindergartens and looking after hundreds of households that do not have enough food. The precinct will mobilize the consumer cooperatives and production installations to sponsor day nurseries and kindergartens. Also, not enough attention has been given to caring for the cultural and spiritual lives of the people. At the same time, there is still much waste at the organizations. In Precinct 1, many places, such as the Agricultural Food Products Corporation and the Service Corporation, still engage in ostentatious displays and waste money by purchasing foreign equipment. Another matter is our relationship with other localities. The economic results have not been good. People constantly go here and there to make visits. The parties alone cost a lot of money. We must put a stop to waste in order to concentrate on looking after the lives of the people.

Reporter: We want to thank both of you for granting us this interview.

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

READER JOINS DRIVE SEEKING IDEAS FOR NEXT PARTY CONGRESS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 22 Apr 86 pp 1, 4

[Contributing Ideas to Party Congress column: "Fifteen-Day Drive Seeking Ideas From Readers and People As Contributions to Party Congress--Voluntarism Is Not Observed in Cooperativization of Agriculture"]

[Text] Editors' Note: The editors of SAIGON GIAI PHONG have recently reviewed the results of the 15-day mailbox drive seeking ideas offered to the party congress. In half a month they received 255 letters from cadres, workers, civil servants, and working people who contributed their ideas.

About contents, 166 letters offer observations and analyses of the situation and make suggestions to the party about its positions and policies, and the way to do the work in actual fields of activities (114 ideas alone deal with the way to organize this coming period of self-criticisms and criticisms). The rest of the letters brings forth and makes complaints about many cases involving the behavior and morality of specific cadres.

All the readers' letters reflect their worries and concern about the common work of the country and municipality and express the hope that their intellectual contributions will help the party to hold successful party congresses at all levels this time and to quickly move the country and municipality forward in all fields. The editors of SAIGON GIAI PHONG wholeheartedly thank our readers and the people for their interest and enthusiastic response to its drive.

Some of the letters we received do not contain any addresses, nor both names and addresses. In order to assist the editors in deciding to print entire letters or excerpts we suggest that those readers who for personal reasons do not want to sign their real names can use any pen names, but should let the editors know their real names and addresses, particularly in the case their letters reveal the negative action of specific party members and cadres. This way we can make further inquiries to confirm facts if necessary. The editors are responsible for keeping the real names of writers confidential.

By 17 April 1986 we have printed just a few letters or excerpts from the readers' letters we received. In the time to come we will try to print as many letters or excerpts as the space in each issue allows us to. On this

occasion we would like to tell you that except for the letters that contain no real names and addresses, all letters--without any exception--will be considered for total or partial printing within the maximum space of this column. All letters are classified and forwarded in batches to the superior leadership organs. As to the letters that deal with the qualities, morality, or abilities of specific cadres and party members, we will quickly forward them to the Municipal Party Congress Organizing Committee, no matter whether they have been printed or not, so as to let it consider them in terms of the human affairs aspect of the party organization congresses at all levels.

In the coming days we hope to continue receiving many letters from our readers and working people contributing ideas to the party congresses about the line, positions, and policies of the party and state; suggesting the necessary measures for the near and far future; and criticizing, commenting on, and offering ideas to the party about the organizing machinery and working methods of party organs, administrations, and mass organizations, and about the personalities, qualities, morality, and abilities of party members.

Voluntarism Is Not Observed

In the spirit of promoting the collective ownership right of working people, we would like to mention a few facts having to do with the movement to cooperativize agriculture in our locality, as well as in the outskirts of our municipality. We fully agree that the positions and policies of the party and state about mobilizing farmers for making land adjustments and going into collectivized work are totally correct. For this is the requirements of the new society that conform with the aspirations of all citizens leading a true life and are aimed at strongly developing production, building a progressive countryside, and abolishing all forms of exploitation in the countryside. However, in the last few years, in many localities the principle adopted by the party that lets farmers voluntarily choose to join collectivized work for the benefits of both sides has not been properly carried out. Because people wanted to score achievements, to get emulation points, or to be awarded letters of commendation or rewards, and were afraid that they would lag behind other localities and that the superior echelons would criticize them, they virtually "forced" farmers to join collectivized work even when the situation and conditions were not favorable for it yet and there was no base that would guarantee a successful joining by farmers. In some localities, those people who showed a lack of "understanding" of the join-the-collectives policy were treated as criminals, were "marked people," encountered difficulties when dealing with the officials to get any certification or documents from them, and even failed to get birth certificates after the birth of their children. The families that had some members working for the state or were students' parents were compelled to be "exemplary" by getting into collectivized work, or else they would encounter difficulties created by officials. In some localities, any teachers who had not actively asked their students to persuade their families to join collectivized work were reprimanded and excluded from being considered for the progressive labor title.

Production collective cadres who were selected by the local administration mostly are former collective members having no land of their own, working for other people, or owning only a couple of cong [i.e., 1,000 square meters] of

land, and since they now must manage up to 40-50 mu [i.e., 3,600 sq m], they are incapable of organizing production for the collectives and cooperatives. As a result, although very many farmers have joined the production collectives and the number of the latter is large, "there is just the name but there are no benefits" for them; since the production collectives and cooperatives that are successful and can attract people are too few, this is "the pretext" for those farmers who still work for themselves not to join the collectivized work, while those who already are members of production collectives and cooperatives tend to prefer working outside to working inside the latter and, in some cases, hope that their collectives would be broken up in order that they would again work on an individual basis.

Ever since Directive 100 on product contracting was issued, we have found as we did from the beginning that this policy is an appropriate one as it correctly responds to farmers' needs. Although it is very correct, in the course of its implementation there have been many "abnormalities" that prevent citizens from being fully satisfied. The number of production collectives and cooperatives that have correctly carried out contracts and ensured harmonious interests is small, but incorrect contracting, nonspecific contracting, or contracting in the manner of "collecting taxes" is very common. Quite a few management boards of collectives and cooperatives still go after private interests. Those people who have good connections, have "umbrellas," and are "reasonable" in terms of offering chickens and alcohol first always get good land and nearby land, which is denied those who are "open and decent" and feel humble and powerless. We also dare to point to the fact that currently many production collectives and cooperatives are far from profitable and that the people who have joined collectives are not better off than they used to be when they were working on an individual basis. There are many reasons for this, but one of them is the fact that the indirect labor machinery is still too crowded and that such expenses as taxes, fertilizers, seeds, soil preparation, plant protection, accumulation fund, public interests fund, and so on are too large. On the other hand, because they do not have to pay into this fund or to make that "contribution," the people who work on an individual basis have greater income.

Another matter we should mention, whether it is right or wrong we do not know but we feel we should mention it here, is this: In a year of bad crops, we wonder whether the state should adopt the policy of waiving the expenses for materials rather than just the tax, because exempting tax payment does not amount to anything much, for tax accounts for only 10-14 percent while materials expenses can go up to about 30 percent, and in addition to materials farmers have to pay for other costly items.

Signed: Nguyen Van Huynh of Hamlet I, An Phu Tay Village, Binh Chanh District

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Ministry of Public Health, beginning under former Minister Pham Ngoc Thach, have been receiving good scientific forecasts and preparing cadres since the 1960's for the establishment of this specialized field of medicine within our country.

In 1969, the Board of the Hanoi College of Medicine (former Professors Ho Dac Di and Nguyen Trinh Co) ordered the establishment of our first medical radiology unit at the Bach Mai Hospital. Operating under exceedingly difficult conditions, this small unit gradually improved its working conditions, gathered equipment that was available within the country and modified this equipment for use in radiometric analysis in medicine.

We never expected that the simple equipment used during the early days would subsequently make such a strong impression upon international specialists: "No where else have I ever seen so many good self-designed and manufactured devices" (Lars Johanson, specialist of the International Atomic Energy Commission).

In 1971, following 2 years of preparation, the state began importing radioisotopes for us on a monthly basis from the Soviet Union so that we could begin trial diagnosis on patients. As of March 1986, it will be 15 years since nuclear medicine was officially introduced in our country. Today, in addition to military medical facilities, the Ministry of Public Health has established a nationwide nuclear medicine network, which has made increasingly effective contributions in the fields of diagnosis, treatment and medical research. This network consists of 10 nuclear medicine facilities: 6 complete nuclear medicine departments and 4 nuclear medicine offices (4 facilities in Hanoi, 3 in Ho Chi Minh City and 1 each in Hue, Haiphong and Bac Thai). Of these facilities, the Bach Mai Nuclear Medicine Center, which consists of the research unit of the Hanoi College of Medicine and the nuclear medicine department of the Bach Mai Hospital, has been given the responsibility of guiding the sector by the Ministry of Public Health.

Over the past 15 years (1971-1986), our country's nuclear medicine sector has developed in the following stages:

1971-1975: 1) The development of radioactive measuring techniques in medicine to measure samples in test tubes and take measurements within the human body; 2) The application of these techniques to explore the functioning of some organs, such as the thyroid, blood, digestive system, kidneys and genital-urinary organs.

1976-1980: 1) Widespread introduction of research results achieved during the previous 5 years; 2) The development of organ imaging technology; 3) The start of experimental treatment of ba-zo-do [Vietnamese phonetics] disease with iodine-131 and polycythemia vera with phosphorus-32.

1981-1985: 1) In charge of a research program consisting of three projects managed on the ministerial level: radioactive imaging of organs using technetium-99-m labeled compounds; the establishment of regimens for the treatment of ba-zo-do using iodine-131 and polycythemia vera using phosphorus-32; research into the technology and organization necessary for radioactivity

and public health x-ray safety; and one project managed on the state level in the use of radioimmunoassay in the diagnosis of endocrine disorders.

In addition, there have also been some projects in pathological research, such as research on hypothyroidism, goiter and malaria and projects in the testing of some radioisotopes produced on a trial basis by the Da Lat Nuclear Institute.

2. We have trained nuclear medicine staffs for Hue, Ho Chi Minh City, Haiphong and Bac Thai and established new departments within the country under the guidance of the Ministry of Public Health (Dang Hoi Xuan, Ph.D.) and with the technical support of the National Atomic Energy Institute (Professor Nguyen Dinh Tu).

3. We have held scientific conferences on nuclear medicine, the most important of which were the conference held in Hanoi in December 1983 and the symposium held in Ho Chi Minh City in May 1985.

4. We have been participating in the Asia and Pacific regional cooperation program in nuclear medicine sponsored by the International Atomic Energy Commission.

As of the end of 1985, our country's nuclear medicine sector had achieved success in introducing more than 40 diagnostic procedures and 2 methods of treatment into regular use serving roughly 20,000 persons nationwide.

From the 15 years that we have spent building the nuclear medicine sector in our country, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. At a time when our country is not yet able to produce radioisotopes on its own, we have, through good organizational measures, imported and made effective and safe use of radioisotopes that have a short half-life. The experience that has been gained will surely prove to be very valuable in researching the domestic production and organizing the use of some radioisotopes.

2. This is a modern field of applied scientific-technical research, one that has a rapid impact. In only a relatively short amount of time, it has made significant contributions to improving the quality of diagnosis and treatment.

3. This field of applied research can be viewed as a model of the direct application of basic science in medical practice, which can only be successfully achieved by well coordinated staffs that represent all the subdivisions of nuclear physics, radiochemistry, radiopharmacology, radiodiagnosis, radiotherapy and radioactivity safety under the direction of persons who are capable of providing the overall guidance needed to reach the goal of achieving the most efficacious application possible.

4. All aspects of the above analysis, in addition to economic returns, also yield a no less important return, that is, laying the foundation, in terms of theory as well as practice, of nuclear medicine in our country.

In view of our country's current circumstances, seeking international assistance in developing the new sciences is both possible and very necessary. In addition to sending cadres to conduct research and receive practical training in the socialist countries, our nuclear medicine sector has received technical aid under five programs from the International Atomic Energy Commission (through the National Atomic Energy Institute) and the World Health Organization (through the Ministry of Public Health). The nuclear medicine department of the Bach Mai Hospital (the sector's leading department) signed a research contract with the Isotopes Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and recently signed a research contract with the International Atomic Energy Commission.

With the support of the National Atomic Energy Institute and the Ministry of Public Health, we have made many efforts in the field of international cooperation. Mr. Carlos Velez, the deputy general director of the International Atomic Energy Commission, who attended the ceremony to mark the opening of the Da Lat nuclear reactor, visited the nuclear medicine department of the Bach Mai Hospital and gave us his impressions: "The use of the implements and devices supplied by the International Atomic Energy Commission and other sources here can be considered an example of how to make effective use of technical cooperation. I firmly believe that, with time, working conditions will be improved, but I hope that the vanguard spirit that exists here today will continue into the future."

In this spirit, we are advancing to the stage of signing contracts as part of international cooperation.

With the results that have been achieved, we can plan the development of our country's nuclear medicine sector along the following strategic lines:

1. Organizing a program to "maintain and improve the quality of nuclear medicine nationwide." This is extremely important in expanding the application of a new science in the developing countries, especially a science that is sophisticated and requires that absolute safety be maintained, such as nuclear medicine. This program encompasses the quality control of radiometric equipment, the quality control of radioactive substances and the quality control of diagnostic and therapy standards, with eventual standardization nationwide.

2. Developing modern nuclear medicine technologies that hold the promise of yielding large returns in our country, such as the dynamic imaging of body organs using the gamma camera with images processed by computer and comparing the results obtained by this method to results obtained through other imaging procedures, especially CAT scanning and ultrasound, and the use of radioimmunoassay coordinated with other immunoassay methods. Accelerating research in the treatment of diseases by means of radiopharmaceuticals, especially the treatment of cancers by radioimmunology.

Developing the modern subdivisions of nuclear medicine, such as cardiovascular nuclear medicine, pediatric nuclear medicine, nuclear cancer therapy and especially tropical nuclear medicine.

3. Promoting the coordination of modern medicine and traditional folk medicine. The use of nuclear medicine to evaluate the efficacy and, in some cases, determine the mechanism of action of the various modes of Eastern medical treatment is, as Hoang Bao Chau, head of the Institute of Folk Medicine, observed, entirely appropriate: "Nuclear medicine has helped us to research the use of snake venoms and various ointments and explain them in detail, thus giving everyone increased confidence in their use. Nuclear medicine will play a very large role in evaluating traditional folk medicine--a completely clinical school of medicine that leans more toward the functional aspect than toward surgery."

4. As regards radiopharmaceuticals, we will officially put into use a number of domestically produced products. We will suggest that the National Atomic Energy Institute and the Da Lat Nuclear Research Institute focus their efforts during the next 5 years on conducting thorough research so that we can truly begin producing sufficient quantities of three radioisotopes to meet domestic needs: iodine-131, phosphorus-32 and technetium-99 in form of generator. These are the three most widely used isotopes in diagnosis and therapy. The Da Lat Nuclear reactor will begin to yield significant economic returns when, in the not too distant future, we no longer need to import these several isotopes.

The Ministry of Public Health will perform the work of testing and certifying radiopharmaceuticals and permit their use in humans.

5. The nuclear medicine sector will initiate a program, to be managed on the Ministry of Public Health level, to research nuclear medicine and public health radioactivity safety to lay the scientific basis for achieving the sector's strategic goals, thereby effectively contributing to safeguarding and improving the health of the people while building a better position for ourselves in the field of international cooperation.

Of course, the National Atomic Energy Commission (as published) will provide guidance, support and technical assistance for this program but, as experience at home and abroad has shown, the application of technical advances in any sector must be organized, managed and carried out by the sector itself (assistance must be provided if it cannot) in order for success to be achieved. Perhaps the application of radioisotopes in agriculture will also be accelerated if we do this.

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POPULATION, CUSTOMS, AND CULTURE

VIEINAM

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR GREATER EFFICIENCY IN CULTURAL WORK

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Feb 86 pp 1-4

[Editorial: "Increasing the Returns from Cultural and Informational Activities"]

[Text] As a spiritual activity, the returns from cultural and informational work are mainly expressed in the form of the political and ideological impact this work has upon the broad masses. It is difficult to measure these returns as accurately as economic returns are measured. On the other hand, these activities, as is the case with a number of economic sectors, also entail financial revenues and expenditures and economic returns. Thus, the returns from cultural and informational activities are judged in both fields: spiritual and material--indirect and direct--abstract and concrete. If we do not take this comprehensive view, if we only give attention to one type of returns, we cannot avoid being biased in the guidance provided and the activities conducted and the result will be lower overall returns from cultural and informational activities.

A full understanding of the party's line on culture, literature and art and a practical approach in the creation of projects, products and activities that are of value from the standpoint of their ideological and artistic content and make positive contributions to building the new life and molding the new, socialist man, these are the most important returns that we must seek to achieve in cultural and informational activities.

Under the light of the resolution of the 5th Party Congress, cultural and informational work has increasingly produced marked returns. In the field of art, many works have emerged in all genre--cinematography, theatrical art, music, the fine arts and so forth--that breathe the hot breath of life. These works reflect a determined struggle against negative phenomena, confirm things that are positive and inspire the masses to work and fight to build and defend the fatherland. Many plays, popular operas, plays of the renovated theater and classical operas have evoked the same feelings among millions of persons: love and respect for persons who are noble, hatred and disdain for persons who are vile. These plays and operas confirm the existence of a way of life--that of living one's life for everyone else and for revolutionary ideals, thus cultivating wholesome aesthetic feelings and helping to mold proper artistic tastes. On the basic level, interesting forms of informational activities,

especially motivational activities, have quickly transmitted to the masses, in ways that are easily understood, the positions and policies of the party and state and inspired the masses to turn these positions and policies into real actions. In Quang Nam-Da Nang, many mobile information units are considered the spokespersons of the party committee and administration and have capable supported specific political and production tasks of the locality. Many policies, such as those on raising cashews and shrimp for exportation, organizing agro-industrial-commercial-credit cooperatives, bringing about the settlement of nomads and so forth, have become the themes of the activities of basic information units, activities that take a wide variety of interesting, easily understood forms, such as literature and art, directly observed motivational activities, small exhibits...that have been quickly accepted by the masses, who have applied what they have learned from these activities. On major anniversaries and holidays, the culture-information sector employs a combined force and conducts interesting, spirited activities everywhere, thereby creating a joyous atmosphere and truly making these occasions festivals of the masses.

Thus, the spiritual returns from cultural and informational activities are of a very important and unique nature and it is difficult to achieve the same returns from other activities. However, at one place or another, some party committees and administration levels give light attention to spiritual returns and only attach importance to material returns in their guidance of cultural and informational activities. At some places, art troupes are required to balance their revenues and expenditures on their own, a requirement which has led to the following contradiction: if they pursue commercial revenues, they must seek to gratify ordinary tastes but if they make investments in the development of art, they are unable to generate sufficient revenues to cover costs, as a result of which the quality of both the organization and activities of these troupes decline. Some places, because they do not have a thorough understanding of the spirit of the resolution of the 8th Party Plenum, allocate only a small number of workpoints to the culture-information forces of the village, as a result of which these activities are inferior, the people are not inspired by these activities and production is affected. Also as a result of giving light attention to spiritual returns, some business organizations have adversely affected the thinking, morals, aesthetic tastes and sentiments of the masses by showing unwholesome video tapes from the capitalist countries.

Attaching importance to the spiritual returns from cultural and informational activities does not mean achieving these returns at any cost. To implement the resolution of the 8th Party Plenum, the cultural sector must institute strict cost accounting so that it can achieve efficiency in all aspects of its activities. This accounting system must be applied in each field: investments in the construction of material bases and equipment, elementary and advanced training, the organizing of the corps, the organizing of activities, etc. When constructing cultural projects, it is necessary to conduct thorough studies of geological conditions, the population, needs and so forth so that these projects are constructed at suitable sites and are of appropriate size. At the same time, these projects must be appropriately equipped and, more importantly, must have a good management apparatus and immediately be put into continuous operation. At some places, museums have

been built atop high hills to which access is difficult, as a result of which museum attendance is small. Some places have constructed cultural centers that are too large and cannot be fully utilized. Other places have built cultural centers but lack management cadres and have not mobilized the masses to participate, consequently, the cultural center cannot function. All these approaches fail to produce either spiritual or economic returns and create waste. In training and organizing the corps, especially on the basic level, attention must be given to taking a comprehensive approach in order to streamline staffs while increasingly the activities being conducted. In Quang Nam-Da Nang Province, there is one basic level information unit that consists of only four persons. However, because the skills of this unit are comprehensive--editor, musicians, singers, composer and illustrator--its activities are more effective than those of many larger information units. Political song groups and literary-art groups organized along these lines have also been conducting good activities, even on international stages. In all three areas of creating, arranging and performing, thorough planning is necessary in order to save time, cut costs and quickly send works and programs down to serve the broad masses. A work that is good in terms of its content and artistic quality, is introduced at the right time and is liked by the masses yields not only spiritual returns, but marked economic returns as well. When organizing performances, it is necessary to keep the needs of audiences in mind and properly apply operations research in order to reduce transportation costs and increase the number of performances that can be given. At the same time, the economic activities of the cultural sector, that is, the production of and business in cultural products, cultural exports and so forth must be accelerated. The cultural sector must organize stronger forces and improve its activities in order to be the master of the cultural market--a market capable of yielding many political and ideological as well as economic benefits.

To build upon the results that have been achieved, the culture-information sector must endeavor to further increase the returns from all aspects of its work and thus be worthy of being the vanguard unit on the political and ideological front.

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POPULATION, CUSTOMS, AND CULTURE

VIETNAM

COLUMN ASKS FOR STRICTER ENFORCEMENT OF LAW, REGULATIONS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 22 Apr 86 p 2

[From Readers' Letters column]

[Excerpt] Traffic Policeman Deserves Punishment

At about 1930 hours on 2 April 1986, I and a friend rode a Honda going from Thi Nghe to the 1st Precinct to return a cassette recorder. At the intersection of Dinh Tien Hoang and Xo-viet Nghe Tinh Streets, a traffic policeman (standing at the Hoa Lu Stadium corner) whistled for us to stop, in spite of the fact that our motorcycle was moving slowly and did not carry anything cumbersome. My friend had to show him his ID and vehicle registration papers (as requested by the policeman) and asked him whether we had violated anything and had to pay any fine. The policeman did not give any direct answers and instead said that we were carrying illegal or smuggled goods. My friend had to show him the cassette recorder document and also opened the trunk for him to check. After having checked everything, he said: "Let me temporarily hold these papers and invite the economic and market management police over to check them!" My friend who did not want to discuss with the policeman, whose breath smelled of alcohol, voluntarily gave him 50 dong as a "tea stipend." But he said: "What can you buy these days with 50 dong?" As we were in a hurry, we had to give him another 50 dong, and then he let us go.

Signed: Nguyen Nhi Nung of the 1st Precinct Photographic State Store

Law Enforcement Organs To Do Better Job

A letter from Pham Duc Thuy of Thanh Da Community in Binh Thanh Ward has this to say: "All state regulations and decisions are legal standards that must be seriously observed by all individuals, organizations, and organs. However, through the press, we know that there are many cases of violations of state laws and regulations that have not yet been dealt with openly and in time. We believe that the law enforcement organs must resolutely deal with any individuals, organizations, and units that have committed any crimes. This is a correct demand on the part of the working people, and satisfying this demand is the only way to create favorable conditions for the people to further develop the collective ownership right and to contribute in many ways to national construction."

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13 AUGUST 1986



